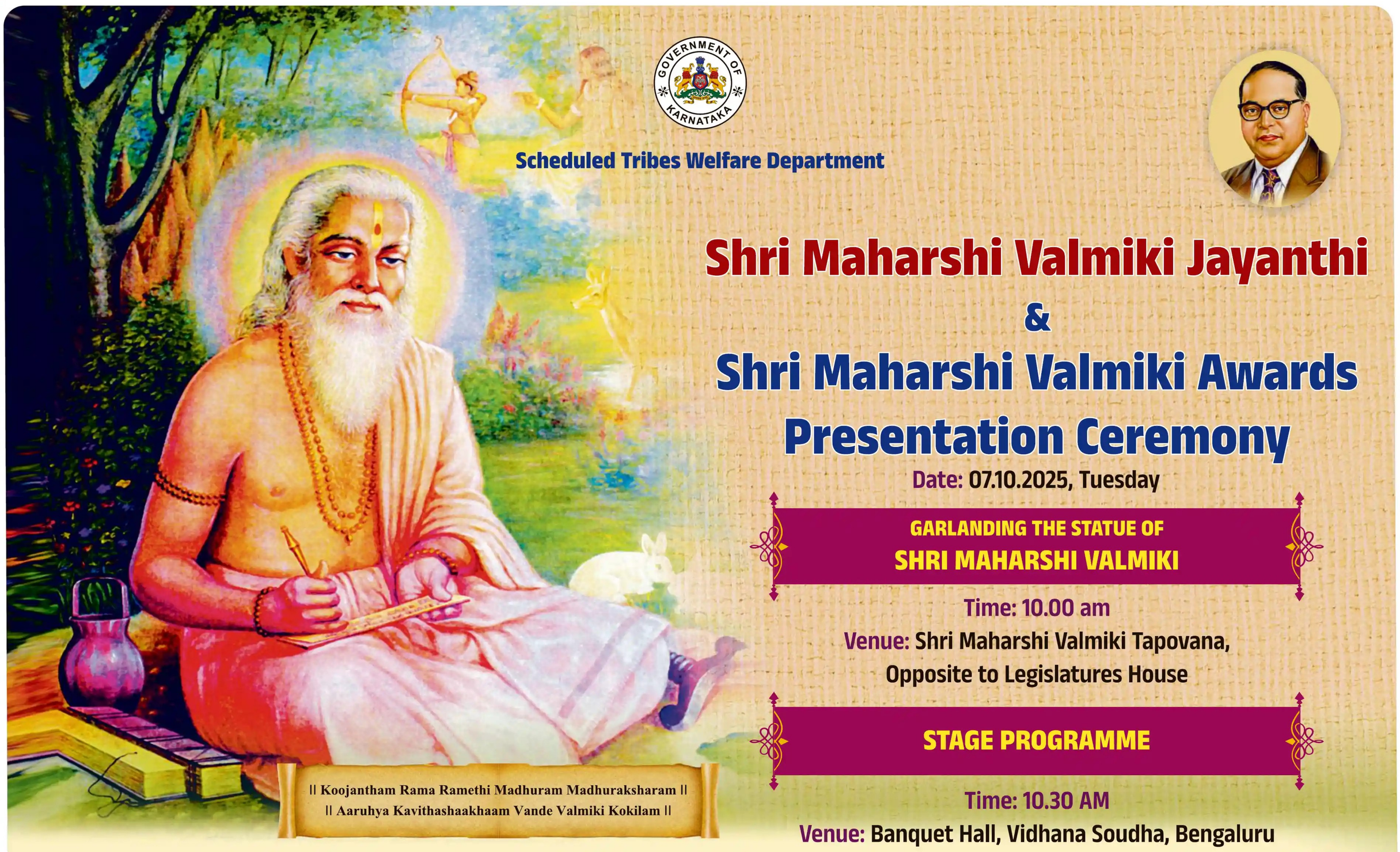
DH
DECCAN HERALD
The Power of Good

Medicine Nobel to trio who identified immune system's 'security guards'

Page 9

Niti Aayog hopeful of early trade pact between India, US

Page 11



GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Scheduled Tribes Welfare Department

Shri Maharshi Valmiki Jayanthi
&
Shri Maharshi Valmiki Awards
Presentation Ceremony

Date: 07.10.2025, Tuesday

GARLANDING THE STATUE OF
SHRI MAHARSHI VALMIKI

Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Shri Maharshi Valmiki Tapovana,
Opposite to Legislatures House

STAGE PROGRAMME

Time: 10.30 AM
Venue: Banquet Hall, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru

|| Koojantham Rama Ramethi Madhuram Madhuraksharam ||
|| Aaruhya Kavithashaakhaam Vande Valmiki Kokilam ||

Government Committed for the Development of TRIBAL COMMUNITY

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

28 months

Towards welfare of Scheduled Tribes
Rs. 33,372.33 crore allocated
under TSP Scheme

Educational Development Programmes

- Scholarship of total Rs. 410 crore to 8.66 lakh students
- Prize Money of total Rs. 161.99 crore to 99,123 meritorious students
- Quality education to 45,360 students through 403 Institutions
- Prabuddha Scheme (Study at Foreign Universities) – Financial Assistance of Rs. 39.00 crore to 109 students
- Establishment of 34 new hostels for students
- Upgradation of 5 Ashrama Schools up to 12th Standard
- Reimbursement of tuition fees for students studying in private educational institutions under management / NRI quota

Other prominent department programmes

- Establishment of separate Scheduled Tribes Welfare Secretariat
- Nutritious food to 47,981 families belonging to 12 tribal communities: Rs. 261 crore utilized
- Houses sanctioned for 12,286 tribal community families
- To provide infrastructure facilities in Colony / Haadis Rs. 231 crore allocated
- For construction of Valmiki Bhavan / Community Centers Rs. 95 crore allocated
- Implementing Tribal Navigator Programme in 5 districts
- Interest subsidy of Rs. 34.50 crore to 350 entrepreneurs of Scheduled Tribes
- Section 7 (D) of SCSP / TSP Act 2013 omitted
- Bore Well facility to 5,699 beneficiaries under Ganga Kalyana Scheme
- Financial Assistance of Rs. 169.30 crore for Self Employment
- Micro loan facility to 4,620 members of Women Self Help Groups

As enshrined in our Constitution - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.

CMofKarnataka https://dipr.karnataka.gov.in/

All are Welcome

karnataka information

Flexible and negotiated arrangements: Pluses and minuses

Employees often work out special arrangements with their bosses that are tailored to their individual needs or circumstances. For example, in recent years, there has been a noticeable increase in requests for greater schedule flexibility. For those able to work remotely, it could be a hybrid schedule or a fully remote one, while for others, it could be flexible hours that allow them to arrive at work later or leave earlier to drop off or pick up their kids from daycare.

Flexibility isn't the only thing employees negotiate. Some also negotiate career advancement options, such as, for example, having the company pay for classes that will provide the employee with beneficial skills that may lead to a better job in the future. Others may ask to be assigned more interesting or challenging tasks to better use certain competencies. Researchers call these arrangements "idiosyncratic deals" or i-deals, because they aren't included in the companies' standard policies and are worked out between employees and their managers.

"An i-deal is a non-standardised, personalised work arrangement that is open for negotiation to employees, but is not available by default to all employees," explains Assistant Professor Haoying (Howie) Xu, who studies organisational

behaviour and human resource management at Stevens School of Business. "Sometimes it can be written on the job offer and sometimes it's agreed upon with one's manager."

While these arrangements certainly confer advantages to the employees who request them, less is known about how they affect their teams' overall performance and, ultimately, the level of customer service the teams provide. "This is an important question that needs to be addressed to enable team managers to make more informed decisions about the use of i-deals," says Xu.

Motivated by this, Xu and his collaborators, including Sandy Wayne from the University of Illinois Chicago, Eric Michel from Northern Illinois University, and Jingzhou Pan from Tianjin University, wanted to find out how each of the three i-deal types—flexibility, career and task—play out in the teams' performance and customer service.

For their research, Xu and his team conducted a study of an American delicatessen chain and three companies in China, including two retailers and an HR consulting firm, to investigate varied cultural and business settings. The American deli chain offered flexible hours to the assistant managers and was open to negotiations for career and task options. The Chinese companies offered similar arrangements to their employees. Xu's team conducted surveys of several hundred people in total and analysed the results.

They found that flexibility i-deals to some employees heightened relationship conflicts within the teams. That's because when employees compare their own work arrangements to the special arrangements some of their colleagues secured, they may feel that the latter negotiated a better deal.

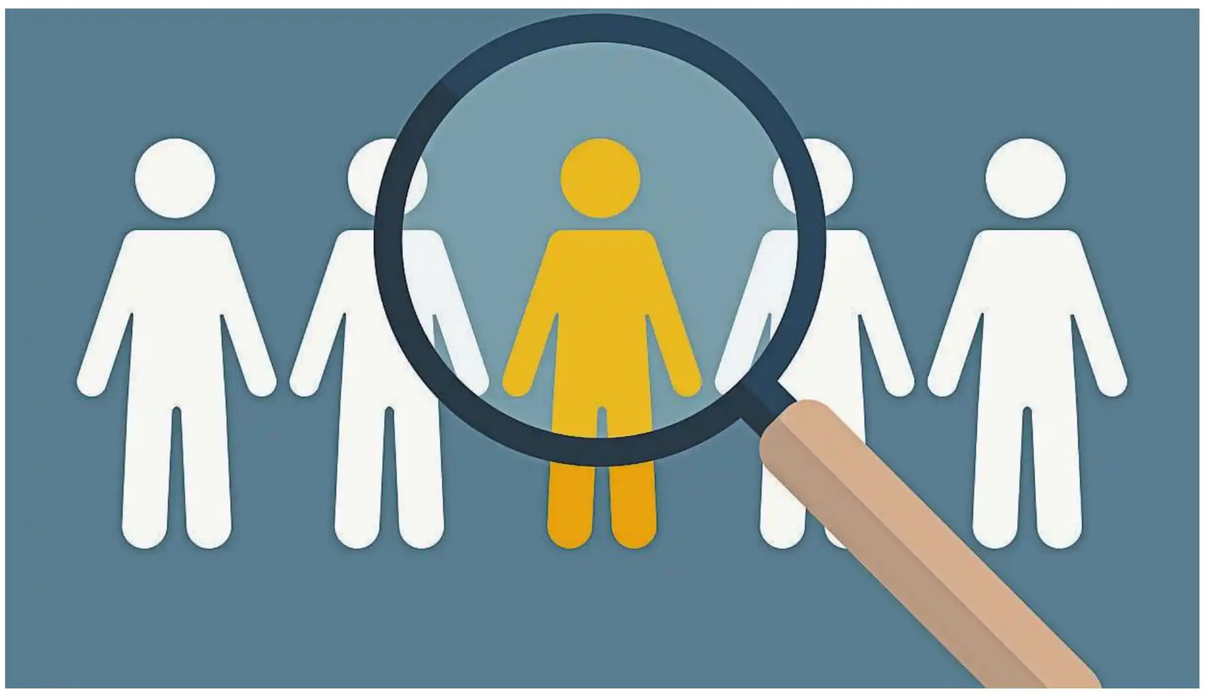
"Consciously or subconsciously, people tend to compare themselves to others, including their coworkers," Xu says. If someone, for example, is allowed to leave early, their colleagues may perceive that as unfair. They may see themselves as having to pick up the slack.

The increased relationship conflicts led to diminished customer service, Xu's research found. "It undermined team coherence by heightening the team conflict," Xu says. "And in turn, the downstream consequence is that the customer service is also undermined. If you're stressed or unhappy because of tensions within your team, that emotional dynamic can trickle down to the service you provide to your customers."

- PHYS.ORG

Beyond leadership mantras

Education leadership is not just about driving change; it's about sustaining values, writes P John J Kennedy



Walk into any leadership seminar on a university campus today, and you will probably hear echoes of *Harvard Business Review* case studies or corporate turnaround stories. You'll find academic leaders quoting Simon Sinek's golden circle, Daniel Goleman's emotional intelligence matrix, or John Kotter's eight-step change model. There's talk of "disruption," "scaling impact," and "agile innovation."

Close your eyes, and you might mistake the gathering for a management conclave rather than a convocation of educators. The problem is not the presence of leadership theory - many of them are insightful - but the overdependence on them.

The real danger lies in adopting these corporate mantras wholesale and applying them to educational institutions that are far more complex, socially embedded, and ethically driven than any business operation.

Leadership theories are seductive. They package complexity into elegant diagrams, offer step-by-step guides, and promise control in the face of chaos.

Take Goleman's emotional intelligence framework, for instance, which is widely cited and immensely influential. It tells us that self-awareness, empathy, and social skills make effective leaders.

But what happens when this is deployed within an academic institution where systemic inequities, underfunding, and politicised governance structures obstruct even the most emotionally attuned leader? Or consider Kotter's much-celebrated change model: urgency, coalition, vision, and quick wins. Great in theory. But how many vice-chancellors, especially in public universities in India, have the autonomy, the political backing, or the fiscal freedom to implement such a model meaningfully?

The truth is, many of these leadership theories buckle at the point of practice. They were born in the world of business, where success is measured in market share and shareholder value, and leadership can often be a top-down affair.

However, higher education doesn't operate in the same universe. It is pluralistic, slow, democratic by design, and fundamentally rooted in knowledge, not commerce. Universities are not factories or startups. They are spaces of contestation and care, tradition and transformation. They must accommodate diverse epistemologies, serve the public good, and grapple with questions that often lack clear answers.

And yet, the managerial turn in universities has been relentless. Strategic plans often mimic corporate blueprints. Institutional dashboards track productivity like assembly lines. Vice-chancellors are branded as institutional CEOs, and students are referred to as customers. All this in pursuit of rankings, visibility, and performance metrics that often sideline the deeper purposes of education.

This corporatisation of academia, especially in countries like India, where global recognition is seen as a quality benchmark, has made leadership theories from business schools the de facto operational toolkit of university governance.

But why this easy acceptance of corporate wisdom? Perhaps because humanities or social sciences theories don't lend themselves to PowerPoint slides and performance reviews. They are messier, more philosophical, and require interpretive patience. Yet, they offer far richer resources for understanding the complex realities of educational institutions.

Foucault helps us understand how power shapes bureaucracies; Bourdieu demonstrates how institutions subtly reinforce privilege. Sen and Nussbaum reimagine education as a form of human development, not just economic output. Sociology highlights deep-rooted inequalities, while anthropology reminds us of the local cultures and hidden norms that define institutions. Even literature, often overlooked, fosters the empathy and imagination vital to ethical leadership.

These are not abstract ideas—they're essential tools for understanding, confronting, and guiding institutions with clarity and conscience. The problem with many leadership theories is not that they are wrong but that they are applied uncritically, without attention to academia's specific moral, political, and cultural contexts. Education leadership is not just about driving change; it's about sustaining values. It's not just about agility but about accountability. It's not just about vision but about voice, and whose voices are heard.

To be fair, some institutions have benefited from strategic, corporate-style reforms. For instance, certain private universities in India have used structured planning and professional management to improve infrastructure, student support, and global visibility.

However, in emulating the corporate model too closely, others have created hyper-competitive, market-driven campuses where faculty precarity, administrative opacity, and student anxiety are growing concerns. The lessons are mixed. The key is not to reject all leadership theory, but to use it judiciously and supplement it with the intellectual depth that the humanities and social sciences can provide.

What higher education needs today is not just a new management model, but a different moral imagination. One that understands leadership not as a performance but as a practice of care. One that draws as much from sociology as from strategy, as much from ethics as from efficiency.

What kind of leaders do we need? Not just those who can quote the latest management trend, but those who can read context, reckon with history, and lead with humility and hope. Perhaps it's time to stop chasing the next corporate playbook and start listening again to the quiet, profound wisdom of the humanities.

(The author is a former head of a private university in Bengaluru)

BULLETIN BOARD

Email marketing internship
Demandlane is hiring email marketing interns who can work from home. Students with knowledge of CSS, Debugging, Digital Marketing, Email Marketing, HTML, Marketing Campaigns, and English Proficiency (both spoken and written) can apply by October 24. The stipend is Rs 7,000 - 10,000/month. Apply at: https://shorturl.at/iePuZ.

Graphic design internship
Global Trend is hiring a graphic design intern who can work from home. Students with knowledge of Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator can apply by October 17. The stipend is Rs 10,000/month. Apply at: internshala.com/i/3671c6.

Educational consultant internship
Tisteps Private Limited is hiring educational consultant interns in multiple locations, including Bangalore (Hybrid). Students with knowledge of Advanced Excel, Consulting, Data Analysis, Digital Design, and effective communication skills can apply by November 5. The stipend is Rs 20,000 – 35,000/month. Apply at: internshala.com/i/9ed04a.

Key account management internship
Gosprint Logistics Private Limited is hiring key account management interns in Bangalore. Students with knowledge of MS Excel, Client Relationship Skills, and Effective Communication and Interpersonal Skills can apply by October 23. The stipend is Rs 20,000 - 25,000/month. Apply at: https://shorturl.at/2ITO5.

Kotak Kanya Scholarship
This scholarship supports meritorious female students from low-income families pursuing professional graduate courses after completing Class 12. Girls with more than 75% in Class 12, family income of less than Rs 6 lakh/year, admitted in NIRF/NAAC-accredited institutes for Engineering, MBBS, Integrated LLB (5 yrs), BS-MS/Research (IISER/IISc), Design, Architecture, etc, can apply before October 31. Scholarship: Rs 1.5 lakh/year till course completion for expenses on tuition, hostel, books, laptop, internet, transport, etc. Details: https://t.ly/OUnVG

JK Tyre Shiksha Sarthi Scholarship
This supports daughters of drivers pursuing undergraduate or diploma courses in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Karnataka, or Tamil Nadu. Female students with more than 55% in the previous year and a family income of less than Rs 5 lakh/year can apply before October 21 to get a one-time grant of up to Rs 25,000. Details: https://t.ly/VLUwl

For queries, feedback, suggestions: dheducation@deccanherald.co.in

NIOS: Decoding a less-opted-for education system

AMARNATH PURV

For decades, the Indian school education system has operated under a rigid, one-size-fits-all model dominated by boards such as the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and the Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE). These boards, while vital, often force students into predefined streams, compelling them to juggle subjects—like Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics—long after they have decided their true calling lies elsewhere.

The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) system offers a paradigm shift. It is not just an alternative for non-regular students; it is a superior model for specialised learning, offering the freedom to chart a unique academic course decades ahead of the competition.

Perks of early specialisation

NIOS has an edge over its traditional counterparts: unmatched flexibility in subject selection. In CBSE and ICSE, career paths are typically compartmentalised into Science, Commerce, or Humanities streams after Class X, often binding students to three or more compulsory subjects.

In NIOS, however, students are empowered to select their desired subjects from a vast menu spanning academic and vocational courses, allowing them to begin their specialisation journey right from the school level.

Imagine a student passionate about graphic design and entrepreneurship. Under the NIOS system, they can combine subjects such as Business Studies and Data Entry Operations with core academic papers, creating a tailored curriculum that directly supports their entrepreneurial ambitions. This is essentially starting college-level specialisation in high school, giving them a head start in building domain knowledge and preparing for competitive university courses.

Many bright, creative minds find themselves bogged down by the difficulty of compulsory subjects, which can negatively impact their overall performance and confidence, even if those subjects are irrelevant to their future career. NIOS provides a much-needed lifeline for them, and, equally important, for families facing financial constraints.

Here are the key advantages of this student-centric board:

- **Unmatched cost-effectiveness:** NIOS is more affordable than traditional schooling. Since there are no compulsory daily attendance requirements or mandatory monthly tuition fees typical of private CBSE or ICSE schools, the expenditure is limited primarily to registration and examination fees. This opens doors to quality education for all economic sections of society.
- **Freedom of subject combination:** Students can choose a customised set of subjects (five to seven), mixing academic streams (Science, Humanities, Commerce) with vocational courses like Data Entry, Yoga, or Hotel Front Office Management, ensuring their education aligns perfectly with their career goals.
- **Self-paced and flexible learning:** There is no rigid fixed timetable. Students can study at their own pace, making it ideal for athletes, artists, entrepreneurs, or those with part-time work or health needs. The curriculum adapts to the student's life, not the other way around.
- **On-demand examination system (ODE):** Unlike fixed annual board exams, NIOS offers the option of On-Demand Examinations for Senior Secondary and Secondary courses. Students can appear for subjects when they feel fully prepared, reducing exam-related stress and anxiety.
- **Wider scope for competitive exams:** By freeing up time and allowing focused subject selection, NIOS provides students with the time necessary to simultaneously prepare for rigorous competitive entrance exams, such as NEET, JEE, or CLAT, giving them a critical competitive edge.
- **Universal recognition:** The NIOS certificate is fully recognised by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, and is valid for all higher education admissions, government jobs, and entrance examinations across the country.

The traditional system of fixed streams and compulsory subjects is rapidly becoming obsolete in a world that values specialised skills. NIOS is leading the charge in creating an educational ecosystem that truly honours individual aptitude, making it the most forward-thinking and student-friendly board for the 21st century.

However, please keep in mind:

- No daily school routine or peer interaction in NIOS—hard for students who need discipline or teacher guidance. They can feel lonely without classmates or the social side of school.
- It requires strong self-motivation and time management. No regular teacher mentorship or school community. Risk of procrastination because it involves self-discipline.
- Science subjects (like Physics, Chemistry, Biology) often lack proper lab access or practical training.
- Practical exams may feel rushed or superficial compared to regular board exams.
- A no-school environment means no sports, cultural events, or clubs that regular schools typically offer.
- Most universities and colleges in India accept NIOS, but some private institutions or foreign universities may be hesitant or require additional verification.
- Competitive exams (such as NEET, JEE, and UPSC) accept NIOS, but certain state-level quotas or foreign boards may be hesitant.
- Some employers or admission officers still see NIOS as "easier" or "less prestigious" compared to CBSE/ICSE. This bias is fading, but not fully gone.
- Some state education boards or local universities have inconsistent rules about the equivalence of NIOS with their 10th/12th boards

(The author is a Bengaluru-based consultant)

Focus on what you can control

MAULLIKA SHARMA

Are you getting agitated during your work or school commute because your cab driver is moving too slowly? Or because every traffic signal seems to stop you for an eternity? Or perhaps the cab needs to refuel, costing you a precious five minutes? Pause for a moment and ask yourself: Can I shift my focus to what I can control?

Do you feel anxious before meeting someone new, maybe during an interview, wondering what they will think of you or how they will judge you? Does that anxiety sometimes make you want to avoid new interactions at work or college altogether? Pause again and ask: Can I shift my focus to what I can control?

Are you someone who thrives on planning and structure? Do the uncertainties of work, the country, or the world leave you feeling overwhelmed? Does a sudden change in plans throw you off balance? Once more, check in with yourself: Can I shift my focus to what I can control?

So, what can you control in any situation?

Your thoughts, attitude, actions, and effort. That's it. Everything else—external circumstances, other people's behaviour, their abilities or preferences, the weather, traffic, geopolitics—is beyond your control, not just for you, but for everyone.

Yet, we often make the mistake of focusing on what is outside our control. You cannot control another person's thoughts, behaviour, preferences, or beliefs. But you can control how you respond, how you interpret events, and how much you allow them to affect you. And the more you focus on what you can control, the more empowered and grounded you'll feel—regardless of what's happening around you.

How can you build the habit of focusing on what you can control

- Stay present. Avoid ruminating about the past or worrying about the future. Be in the moment. Practising mindfulness—like focusing on your breath—can help

quiet unhelpful thoughts.

- Notice your thoughts. Become aware of what you're thinking and how those thoughts are influencing your emotions.
- Pause and reflect. Ask yourself: What is within my control in this situation?
- Make a list. Write down the "controllables" and "uncontrollables". Use pen and paper—this slower, more deliberate process helps you focus and retain what you're writing.
- Take action. Decide how you want to respond to what you can control. Set goals, prioritise tasks, or create a "to-do" or "to-be" list.
- Channel your effort. Focus your energy only on what's within your control. This may require unlearning old habits and making mistakes along the way—but clarity makes the journey easier.
- Be kind to yourself. Growth takes time. Treat yourself with compassion as you build this new way of being.

Let's revisit the cab ride example.

- Instead of getting frustrated with the slow driver, consider what's within your control.
- Focus your mind on the present moment. Take a few deep breaths.
- Recognise your distressing thoughts.
- Decide how to minimise the impact of your delayed arrival. Prioritise and act on this.
- What do you want to do to utilise your increased time in the cab more productively, if anything?
- Do you need to inform your destination about your delayed arrival?
- Try to reframe the situation—perhaps this slower ride will give you a few extra minutes to rest and recharge.
- To use a popular term, take a chill pill!

Rather than being controlled by what you cannot control, choose to take charge of what you can control. Remember the Serenity Prayer:

"God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

(The writer is a counsellor and wellness coach who works with adolescents and adults)

Bengaluru Tuesday, October 7, 2025 Pages 16 Vol 78 No 277 ₹7

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DECCAN HERALD

The Power of Good

Tariff volatility hitting trade calculations: Jaishankar

Rising anti-globalisation sentiment in many societies, says EAM

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World

French PM Lecomu quits after less than one month in office P.9

Business P.11

US pharma major Eli Lilly to invest $1 bn in Telangana

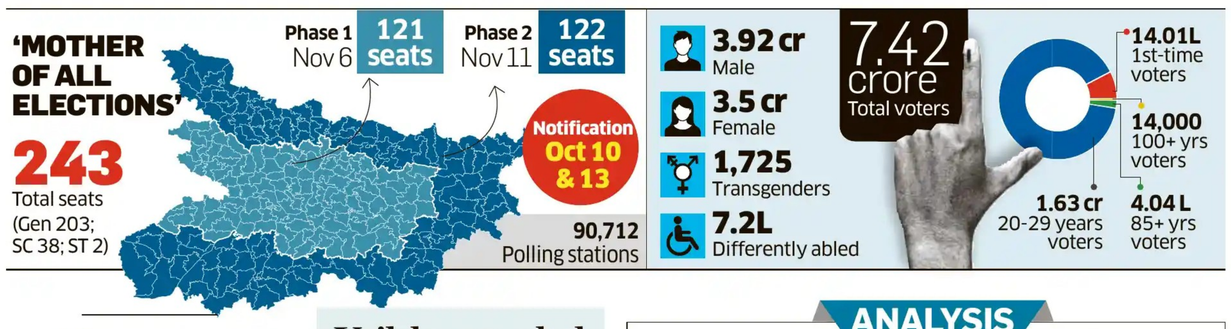
Nation

J&K records lowest FDI P.10

Business

Gold price soars by Rs 2,700 P.11

Battle for Bihar: Stage set for 2-phase elections



EC announces Nov 6 & 11 as poll dates; results on Nov 14

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Bihar will vote in two phases on November 6 and 11, in a crucial Assembly election that will see Nitish Kumar-led ruling NDA and RJD-led Mahagathbandhan jostling for people's mandate. The counting of votes will be on November 14.

BIHAR VOTES

Bypolls to eight Assembly seats, including Budgam and Nagrota in Jammu and Kashmir, will also be held on November 11 along with the second phase of Bihar polls.

Announcing the schedule, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar told a press conference that the Bihar election is the "mother of all elections" while assuring to hold a peaceful and transparent exercise.

The notification for the first and second phases of polls will be issued on October 10 and 13, respectively. The last date of filing nominations will be October 17 and October 20. The election process will be completed before November 16.

The announcement of the schedule is set to accelerate seat negotiations within the two alliances, where smaller parties like CPI(ML)L, VIP, LJP(RV) and HAM are locked in intense bargaining.

The poll outcome will determine whether the BJP will finally come out of the shadows of Nitish Kumar's JD(U).

▸ Bihar polls, Page 5

Veil, burqa-clad voters to be checked

As many as 90,712 'anganwadi sevikas' will be deployed in polling stations in Bihar during the Assembly election to ascertain the identity of women who come to vote wearing 'ghoongat' (veil) and burqa, CEC Gyanesh Kumar said.
Details on Page 8

People watch the live telecast of EC announcing Bihar polls, in Patna, on Monday. PTI

ANALYSIS

Bihar 2025 may see rerun of old script

SUMIT PANDE
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Over the last two decades, Bihar elections have not been about securing an absolute majority.

Such is the nature of the fragmented polity since 2005 that every time the Election Commission announces the poll schedule, the key constants—both within and outside their respective alliances—line up knowing fully well that none can cross the halfway mark on its own.

The realistic approach, thus, is to emerge as the dominant partner within the alliance and the single largest party in the state Assembly, even if it means undercutting one's pre-poll partner a bit. And 2025 may not be any different.

A lead position in the Assembly bolsters one's chance to claim the chief ministership within the pre-poll alliance. Or that was the case till Nitish Kumar came along.

In a series of stunning political somersaults, Nitish demonstrated that one could reign over the throne in Patna with fewer MLAs if one could tilt the scales of power between Lalu Yadav's RJD and Narendra Modi's BJP by walking in and out of an alliance with a committed 13 to 20% vote share.

The 'N-factor' has considerably weakened in the last five years. Nonetheless, it has successfully held out against the BJP's unfettered march to political dominance in the heartland states, forcing the saffron outfit to lean on the JD(U) every now and then.

The 2020 polls were marred by a new normal in state politics when Lok Janshakti Party's Chirag Paswan, an NDA ally, decided to go solo, selectively undercutting the JD(U) while sparing the BJP in most seats. Will it be different this time around if the BJP wins more seats?

I.N.D.I.A bloc

The RJD, led by Lalu's son and former deputy CM Tejaswi Yadav, emerged as the single largest party with 75 seats in the last Assembly polls. That's the RJD's best performance without Nitish Kumar by its side.

▸ Bihar, Page 5

Govt likely to extend socio-edu survey; school timings revised

BENGALURU, DHNS: The ongoing Social & Educational Survey, scheduled to end on Tuesday, may be extended up to October 24 in Bengaluru, going by a memo issued by the department of school education & literacy.

Schools will reopen on October 8 after the Dasara holidays.

However, school timings have been altered to allow teachers to complete the survey.

From October 8 to 24, government and aided schools in the Greater Bengaluru area will have classes from 8 am to 1 pm so that teachers can carryout the survey thereafter, the department has said.

In the rest of the state, all government and aided schools will have classes from 8 am to 1 pm from October 8 to 12.

The memo was issued after the backward classes department said more time was needed to complete the survey.

The Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes is expected to make a formal announcement on the survey's extension in a day or two.

▸ Survey, Page 5

Dalits converting to Buddhism will get SC certificates, Page 4

'Won't stand insult to Sanatan': Lawyer tries to hurl shoe at CJI

Bar council suspends his licence; probe on

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

A Supreme Court lawyer on Monday made an abortive bid to hurl a shoe at Chief Justice of India B R Gavai, creating a brief commotion inside the courtroom and attracting widespread condemnation.

As the 71-year-old advocate, identified as Rakesh Kishore, tried to hurl the shoe, security personnel intervened and escorted him out of the court.

When he was being taken away, the lawyer was heard shouting: *"Sanatan ka apman nahi sahenge* (We will not tolerate any insult to Sanatan)." He was reportedly unhappy with the CJI's recent remarks on restoration of a Lord Vishnu idol in Khajuraho.

The CJI, however, asked the lawyers present to carry on with the day's proceedings.

"Don't get distracted by all this. We are not distracted. These things do not affect me," he said.

The Delhi police questioned Kishore and let him go later as no formal complaint was lodged. "He is a resident of the Mayur Vihar area and a registered member of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA)," a senior police officer said.

The police are further investigating the matter.

The Bar Council of India has suspended the lawyer's licence as an interim measure and initiated disciplinary proceedings against him.

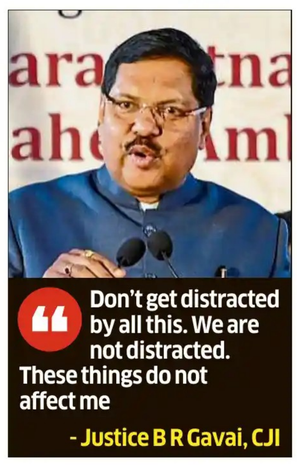
Solicitor General Tushar Mehta termed the incident as unfortunate which deserved condemnation. "This is the result of misinformation in social media," he said, adding that it appeared to be an act of some attention-seeker wanting cheap publicity.

The incident came against the backdrop of a controversy related to the CJI's remarks when he declined to consider a plea seeking directions to reinstall an idol of Lord Vishnu at the Javari temple in the Khajuraho temple complex.

"This is purely publicity interest litigation...Go and ask the deity himself to do something. If you are saying that you are a strong devotee of Lord Vishnu, then you pray and do some meditation," Justice Gavai had said while hearing the petition filed by one Rakesh Dalal.

As the CJI's statement ignited angry reactions, he clarified that he respected all religions and that his comments were made in the context that the temple was under the Archaeological Survey of India's jurisdiction and the court couldn't grant relief.

▸ CJI, Page 5



"Don't get distracted by all this. We are not distracted. These things do not affect me
- Justice B R Gavai, CJI

PM, Cong condemn

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and senior leaders, including Congress' Mallikarjun Kharge and Sonia Gandhi, on Monday condemned the attempt by a lawyer to throw a shoe at the CJI, saying that there is no place for such reprehensible acts in our society.
Details on Page 9

K'taka issues advisory on cough syrups

BENGALURU, DHNS: Following reports of children dying after consuming cough syrup in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, the Karnataka government has cautioned against the use of Coldrif Syrup, manufactured by Sreesan Pharma (Kanchipuram), and Dextromethorphan Hydrobromide Syrup IP, manufactured by M/s Kaysons Pharma (Jaipur).

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said samples of cough syrups of all companies are being tested. He clarified the syrups that caused the deaths haven't been supplied in the state.
Details on Page 5

Lingayat vs Veerashaiva 'religion' row may rock Cong again

BENGALURU, DHNS: Differences erupted within the Congress on Monday a day after a collective of Lingayat pontiffs resolved to work towards getting a separate religion status for their 'Lingayat' faith.

The 'separate religion' movement for Lingayats is widely believed to have contributed to the Congress' defeat in the 2018 Assembly polls.

Then Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had recommended to the Union government to declare the Lingayat faith as a separate religion.

On Sunday, the federation of Lingayat pontiffs said their religion, founded by 12th century social reformer Basavanna, must be recognised on the lines of Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism.

At this event, Siddaramaiah endorsed the view that Basavanna had indeed founded a new religion.

Like it had done in the past, Sunday's resolution has irked the All India Veerashaiva Mahasabha, which has reiterated its stand that the separate religion should be called 'Veerashaiva-Lingayat' as the two nomenclatures - Veerashaiva and Lingayat - mean the same.

Puritan Lingayats, however, argue that they follow Basavanna and are different from Veerashaivas, who they say practise Hindu or Vedic rituals.

▸ Lingayat, Page 4

8 patients killed in Jaipur hospital fire

JAIPUR, DHNS: At least eight patients were killed after a fire broke out at the Sawai Man Singh Hospital in Jaipur late Sunday night.

The blaze started around 11.20 pm on Sunday night in a storeroom, spread to the Neuro ICU ward of the Trauma Centre.

Initial reports suggest a short circuit as the cause of fire. The storeroom contained paper, ICU equipment and blood samples.

At least 11 patients were being treated at Neuro ICU when the fire erupted in the storage area. Another 13 patients were in the next ICU.
Details on Page 10

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Website : www.bldedu.ac.in

Our Visionary Founders

Dr. P. G. Halakatti | Shri Banthanal Swamiji | Dr. B. M. Patil

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Shri M. B. Patil

Hon'ble President, BLDE Association, Vijayapura
Minister for Large & Medium Industries &
Infrastructure Development, Government of Karnataka

Your visionary stewardship has cultivated a legacy of global excellence in professional education& tertiary health care.

ಮರ ಮರ ಮಥನದಿಂದ ಅಗ್ನಿ ಹುಟ್ಟಿ,
ಆ ಮರನೆಲ್ಲವ ಸುಡದಿಪ್ಪುದೆ?
ಮಹಾನುಭಾವರ ಸಂಗದಿಂದ ಜ್ಞಾನಾಗ್ನಿ ಹುಟ್ಟಿ,
ಎನ್ನ ತನುಗುಣವೆಲ್ಲವ ಸುಡದಿಪ್ಪುದೇ?
ಇದು ಕಾರಣ, ಮಹಾನುಭಾವರ ತೋರಿಸು
ಕೂಡಲಸಂಗಮದೇವಾ.
-ಬಸವಣ್ಣ
When fire is kindled, as
Tree rubs on tree, does not the
whole tree burn?
When the great illumination dawns
By contact of Experients,
Do not the body's traits all burn?
Therefore, O Kudala Sangama Deva,
Show me the great Experients !
-Basavanna

Accreditations & Rankings

3.09 CGPA | nirf Rank Band: 101-150 | INDIA TODAY 12th Rank | EducationWorld 7th Rank | THE WEEK 11th Rank | CAREERS360 42nd Rank

TOP SPOT

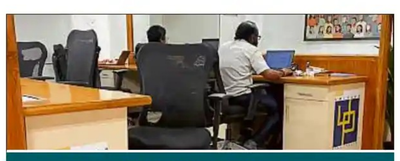
B'luru leads flexible office footprint with 31% share

UMA KANNAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

Bengaluru dominates the country's flexible office market in India with a 31% share of the overall market. Flex office space refers to a shared workspace model, and it supports hybrid work models. Since the city serves several global corporates, Global Capability Centres (GCCs) and startups, it remains the country's deepest flex ecosystem.

Various industry experts estimate the Flexible Office Space stock in the country to cross 100 million sq ft by 2026 from the present 85 million sq ft. The average requirement size from an Indian corporate has grown from 20 seats to over 50 seats in just two years.

Anuj Puri, group chairman of Real estate consultant ANAROCK, said the sector now includes over 1,500 unique brands with more than 50 players operating 10 or more centres.



FLEX FIELD

- HSR Layout, Koramangala see more startup-driven demand
- ORR, Whitefield dominate enterprise flex
- North Bengaluru to see more demand due to airport connectivity

While HSR Layout and Koramangala see more startup-driven demand, the Outer Ring Road and Whitefield dominate enterprise flex, according to a report by myHQ by ANAROCK, a provider of coworking space solutions.

While conceding that congestion on ORR is an "undeniable challenge", Utkarsh Kawatra, co-founder and CEO of myHQ by ANAROCK, told *DH* that long-term structural solutions like the ORR–Airport Metro line — scheduled for completion by December 2027— are expected to improve connectivity. "Once operational, it will not only ease commuter movement but also make flex workspaces more attractive," he said.

With an 18.1% share of flex, HSR Layout has high flex density, as affordable residential proximity sustains startups and fast-scale team demand.

▸ Flexible office, Page 5

2.66 lakh houses surveyed in GBA limits

BENGALURU, DHNS: As part of an ongoing socio-educational survey initiated by the state government, over 2.66 lakh households have been surveyed within the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) limits so far.

On Monday alone, enumerators covered 1.41 lakh homes across different city corporation zones.

According to official data, West Bengaluru corporation area recorded the highest coverage, with 87,923 households surveyed. This was followed by Bengaluru North, where 68,639 homes were covered. The remaining three city corporations recorded between 30,000 to 40,000 surveys each.

The overall target is to reach approximately 50 lakh households in Bengaluru.

Parking dispute: Cab drivers assaulted near KIA; one arrested

BENGALURU, DHNS: A violent clash over car parking near the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) on Sunday night left two private taxi drivers injured and their vehicles damaged.

The altercation occurred around 9.30 pm near a tea shop in Shettigere, when a man in a white Hyundai i20 allegedly began honking aggressively at the way their cab was parked.

According to the complaint, a verbal spat quickly escalated, with one of the attackers using an iron rod to smash the taxi's windows and assault the driver, Janardhan, causing a serious head injury. Another driver, Basavaraj KS, who was also assaulted, reported the theft of his gold chain and Bluetooth headset.

Though initial police response drew criticism from local drivers' associations for inaction, the Chikkajala police later registered an FIR and arrested the prime suspect — 35-year-old Devegowda — who was identified by witnesses. The suspect's vehicle was also seized.

Authorities confirmed efforts are ongoing to locate another suspect involved in the attack.

Security guard dies by suicide

BENGALURU, DHNS: A 32-year-old security guard shot himself in DJ Halli on Sunday night.

The deceased, Lakhan Vishwakarma from Bihar, was on duty at the boy's hostel in Ambedkar Medical College at the time of the incident.

Vishwakarma shot himself in the throat using a double-barrel gun, the police said, adding that the incident was caught on CCTV camera. The reason behind the act is yet to be ascertained, the police said.

Experts warn tunnel road will damage Lalbagh ecosystem

Nearly 6 acres of Lalbagh land would be lost, says civic group

BENGALURU, DHNS

Civic group Citizens for Citizens (C4C) has strongly opposed the proposed Rs 26,000-crore Tunnel Road Project (TRP) between Hebbal and Central Silk Board, warning it would cause "all-round damage" to the Lalbagh Botanical Garden — the city's prominent lung space.

In a statement released on Monday, C4C described the project as a "disaster in the making", claiming nearly six acres of Lalbagh land would be lost, potentially causing irreversible harm to its trees, soil, lake, and ecosystem.

"Trees will be cut and Lalbagh's soil, water, air, lake and the rock will all bear the brunt," the release said. The group has urged the state government to immediately halt the plan, rallying support under the hashtag #SaveLalbaghSaveBengaluru.

Environmentalist Dr Yellappa Reddy, also former chairman of Bangalore Environment Trust, echoed concerns, emphasising the geological sensitivity of the Lalbagh region.

He said the Dharwad Craton rock system, extending from MM Hills right up to Ballari, protects peninsular India from earthquakes and there has already been plundering of granite in parts of this belt. Lalbagh rock rupture can even lead to water leakage from the Lalbagh Lake into nearby institutions like Nimhans.

Reddy also raised structural safety concerns, pointing out that the tunnel's planned depth of 50 to 100 feet could jeopardise high-rise buildings in the vicinity.

He urged authorities to consult the National Institute of Rock Mechanics before proceeding, and called on Bengaluru's elected representatives to respond to citizens' fears. "Elected MLAs and MPs of Bengaluru have a lot to answer to the people of Bengaluru. At no cost should Bengaluru Amma be forced to shed tears," he said.

The Lalbagh Botanical Garden is one of Bengaluru's most iconic green spaces, and holds immense ecological, historical, and cultural value. FILE PHOTO

Significance of Lalbagh Botanical Garden

- **Historical legacy:** In 1935, megalithic burial chambers were excavated within the present-day Lalbagh. The garden also houses at least two veeragallu (hero stones), ancient memorials commemorating warriors.
- **Wildlife heritage:** A century ago, Lalbagh housed a zoo with tigers, bears, rhinos, black panthers, kangaroos and even an orangutan. A deer park also existed here until just a few decades ago.
- **Agricultural contribution:** The well-known Bengaluru brinjal or Seemebadnekai is believed to have its beginnings in Lalbagh.
- **Landscape transformation:** The picturesque Lalbagh Lake was once a stone quarry.

Threat from the Tunnel Road Project

- The proposed 16.7-km tunnel road will cut across and run under Lalbagh for about 700 metres, with two tunnels, two long ramps and a massive ventilation shaft. The depth will range between 50 and 100 feet below ground; and both ramps will slope towards the surface.
- About 23,800 square metres (almost 6 acres) of Lalbagh will be acquired along the 1.1 km Siddapura Road between Ashoka Pillar and Marigowda Junction.

> The tunnel road will cut across Lalbagh with grave consequences. Repeated pleas for early, fair, and open-minded public consultation have gone unheeded, while authorities bulldoze through with this project, which will bring disaster for Bengaluru. Meanwhile, simpler, cheaper, eco-friendlier, safer, and faster alternatives are being ignored.
>
> **Rajkumar Dugar**
> Convener, Citizens for Citizens (C4C)

Woman dies after husband assaults her with rolling pin

He falsely claims the victim fell from a building

BENGALURU, DHNS

A 26-year-old woman, Preethi Singh, succumbed to her injuries on October 2, after being violently assaulted by her husband, Chottelal Singh, with a rolling pin at their home in Chokkasandra on September 24, the police said.

Originally from Madhya Pradesh, both Preethi and Chottelal worked at a private company in the city. Chottelal was employed as a helper.

According to the police, Chottelal frequently subjected Preethi to mental and physical harassment.

On the day of the assault, an argument broke out when Preethi returned home for lunch, which escalated into brutal violence. Chottelal allegedly beat her on the head and body with a rolling pin.

Attempting to hide the crime, he took her to a hospital in T Dasarahalli and falsely claimed she had fallen from a building. The truth emerged when the couple's two children confided in Preethi's employer, who then filed a complaint with the Peenya police.

Chottelal was arrested on September 25 and initially charged with assault. After Preethi passed away following days in a coma, the charge was upgraded to murder.

Harassed for giving birth to girl, woman ends life

BENGALURU, DHNS: A 26-year-old woman ended her life after her husband allegedly harassed her for giving birth to a girl.

The incident took place at Laggere near Nandini Layout on Monday.

The deceased, Rakshitha, a housewife, was married to Ravish, an employee with a private bank. The couple were residing at Muneshwara Block.

A senior police officer said that Rakshitha's father, Timmaraju, said in his complaint that the couple were married four years ago and she had delivered a baby girl a few months ago.

The harassment began after childbirth. Ravish did not come to see the baby at the hospital. He also refused to pay the hospital bill.

Rakshitha recently moved back to her husband's house, where Ravish, along with his brother Lokesh, continued harassing her.

Upset over this, Rakshitha had taken the extreme step, the officer said.

Based on the complaint, the police detained Ravish.

However, Ravish gave a statement that Rakshitha hanged herself while he was away at work.

He said upon returning home, he knocked on the door several times, but received no response. He then called the house owner, who used a spare key to open the door. Inside, they found Rakshitha hanging.

The family and police were informed afterward.

"We awaiting the autopsy report to take further action against the accused," the police officer added.

Toddler dies after being run over by car in Kamakshipalya

BENGALURU, DHNS: An 11-month-old boy was run over by a car within the jurisdiction of the Kamakshipalya traffic police station on Monday.

The accused, Swamy, 32, an RTO agent, has been detained by the police.

The child, identified as Mohemmed Umar Farukh, had come to Gollarahatti on Magadi Main Road along with his parents. The family hails from Kunigal in Tumakuru district. Mohemmed's father, Anwar Pasha, a canter driver, was visiting relatives, who were tenants in a house owned by Swamy.

According to police reports, around 8.45 am, Swamy had parked his car in a parking lot and was preparing to leave for work. He noticed the toddler sitting with his mother, who was occupied with daily chores. After waiting briefly, the toddler crawled toward the front right wheel of the car. Unaware of the child's presence, Swamy moved the vehicle, fatally injuring the boy on the spot.

College HoD booked after student alleges sexual harassment

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Tilaknagar police have registered a case of sexual harassment against the Head of Department (HoD) of a reputable private college after a 19-year-old undergraduate student filed a formal complaint.

The suspect is 45-year-old Sanjeev Kumar Mandal.

The complaint was filed following an incident that allegedly occurred on September 25 at the official's house in Jayanagar 9th Block.

According to the complaint, the HOD had invited the student to his home for lunch around 1 pm. Upon reaching the residence, the student realised that none of his family members were present, and she was ushered inside.

While she was seated, Mandal approached her, sat next to her and began discussing her academic record, specifically mentioning her low attendance. He allegedly attempted to leverage her academic standing, promising to increase her attendance and award higher marks if she complied with his advances.

The complaint alleged that Mandal then began behaving inappropriately and sexually harassed the student, including putting his hand inside her clothing.

The student objected to the conduct. She managed to leave the premises around 2 pm after receiving a timely phone call from a friend, which she used as a pretext for an urgent departure. The police are investigating the case.

BMTC MD transferred

BENGALURU, DHNS: In a surprise move, the state government has transferred Ramachandran R, Managing Director, Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC).

He will be replaced by Sivakumar KB, a 2010-batch IAS officer currently posted as Commissioner, Health and Family Welfare Services. Sivakumar will hold concurrent charge as the BMTC chief.

Ramachandran, a 2012-batch IAS officer, departs after 21 months at the BMTC.

◆ IN THE CITY ◆

GENERAL

Scheduled Tribes Welfare Department: Maharishi Valmiki Jayanti; Maharishi Valmiki Award: Prasananandapuri Swamiji; Inauguration: Siddaramaiah; Presence: DK Shivakumar, Basavaraja Horatti, UT Khadar, HC Mahadevappa, Satish Jarakiholi; Banquet Hall, Vidhana Soudha; 10.30 am.

CULTURAL

Srishti Abhinaya Kalavidara Kendra & Rotary Beagle Rock: Navaratri Music Dance Drama Dandiya Festival; Ravindra Kalakshetra, JC Road; 4 pm.

◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

FORECAST

Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers

TEMPERATURES

Maximum	28.0°C
Minimum	20.0°C
Rainfall	7.0mm
Humidity	96%
Sunset (Oct 7)	6:07 pm
Sunrise (Oct 8)	6:09 am
Moonrise	5:29 pm
Moonset	5:06 am

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

Monsoon retreats, but Northeast Bengaluru still riddled with craters

ASHWIN BM
BENGALURU, DHNS

The monsoon may be fading, but the nightmare for commuters in northeastern Bengaluru continues, with potholes turning daily travel into a hazardous ordeal.

Residents and motorists are demanding urgent action as key stretches — including Kothanur Main Road, the route from Gubbi Cross to Hennur-Bagalur Main Road, and parts of Hennur Main Road — have become treacherous obstacle courses, heightening fears of accidents and health risks.

The extent of road damage has made even routine travel a gamble, especially along Kothanur Main Road.

"It is a disgrace," said Meera S, a software professional who commutes daily to Embassy Manyata Business Park. "The potholes here are not just bumps, they are craters. Last week, I saw a car nearly lose its axle after hitting one. Our vehicles cannot take this level of shock," she said.

The situation is worse for two-wheeler riders, who are most vulnerable to the uneven, waterlogged surfaces.

Shivu, a delivery executive, called the stretch near Gubbi Cross a "death trap".

"During the evening rush, it is impossible to judge the depth of these craters, especially with streetlights not working. I have had several near misses. On the Hennur-Bagalur Main Road, swerving to avoid a pothole often pushes us into oncoming traffic. It feels like the authorities are waiting for a fatal accident before acting," he said.

The main stretch of Hennur Main Road near the railway underbridge is in a similar state.

"Even the newly laid stretches do not last," said auto driver Hameed Ali. "The patchwork is poor, and within weeks, a fresh series of cracks and cuts appear. The problem is not just the rain; it is shoddy work and the weight of traffic," he said.

A badly maintained stretch on the service road on the Outer Ring Road near Nagawara. DH PHOTO/BK JANARDHAN

CIVIC SCAR

The rapid deterioration of this repaired segment near MG Road, collapsing for a second time, is a glaring testament to the city's struggle with durable infrastructure.
DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

From Sampige Theatre to 11th Main, residents say the area's famed charm is now buried under broken roads.
DH PHOTO/SHRADDHA AK

Potholes tarnish Malleswaram's shine

SHRADDHA AK
BENGALURU, DHNS

Malleswaram's roads are usually better maintained than most parts of the city, given the steady footfall of shoppers and food enthusiasts.

Yet, two stretches continue to trouble commuters — the crossroad at the Sampige Theatre signal and the 11th Main Road.

The crossroad near Sampige Theatre is vital for residents heading towards Rajajinagar and the city's northeast. Despite its importance, the left side of the road is marred by poor patchwork repairs. Asphalt debris from lifted tar covers the stretch, posing risks to pedestrians and motorists.

A nearly invisible pothole on this one-way road has caused several two-wheeler riders to skid and fall while trying to avoid it. Pedestrians also trip over the loose asphalt scattered by passing vehicles.

If the Sampige Theatre junction is troublesome, 11th Main Road is far worse. Running parallel to the railway track beside the old BJP office, it is riddled with deep potholes.

Though not heavily used by regular commuters, this stretch sees frequent movement of BMTC buses and gas cylinder transport vehicles.

Residents blame the damage on rough unloading practices. "They literally throw the empty cylinders onto the road while unloading, and over time, it leaves major breaks," said Kiran, a local resident.

Waterlogging has worsened the situation. A resident said stagnant rainwater and overflow from the nearby BBMP public toilet had weakened the surface. "The water stagnated here for days. Slowly, the weight of it sank the road and undid all the tar," he explained.

Despite persistent issues, the two stretches have not been prioritised by the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA).

"We are working with many roads around Malleswaram, and these got left out because they were not prioritised," said a senior official. "But we will get to it as soon as possible and fix it."

For now, these two damaged stretches remain glaring exceptions in Malleswaram's otherwise well-maintained network, posing daily hazards to commuters and pedestrians.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

OPEN TENDER NOTICE No. B-E-TLAC-Noncore-2025 Dt. 26.09.2025 (through E-Tendering)

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work.

Name of Work	Approx.Value
Outsourcing of Non-core activity for ICF & LHB coaches at Train Lighting Maintenance Depots and repair of Pantry equipment in Air conditioning depots over Bengaluru division for two years	Rs. 5,50,05,802.95

Last date for Submission of bids : **Upto 16:00 hrs on 17.10.2025**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineering/ Bengaluru

PUB/525/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Publication of E-Tender
Notice No. E-GSU-ELE-2025-26-OT-4A dated 30.09.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work.

Sl.No.	Item of Work	Approx.Value
1.	Electrical Arrangements for the Proposed Passenger Lifts & Escalators at 14 Stations over Bengaluru division under Amrit Bharat Scheme.	Rs. 1,44,03,265.76/-

Last date for Submission of bids : **Upto 11.00 hrs on 22.10.2025**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer, Gati Shakti Unit, Bengaluru

PUB/528/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. SG-SWR-PROJ-UBL-22LC Dated : 26-09-2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Provision of Mini IPS system to avoid blanking of signals in the face of approaching train at 22 LC gates and RTU for 21 LC gates over Hubballi Division.	Rs. 5,32,66,048.05

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 27-10-2025**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date

Deputy Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer Project-II, Hubballi

PUB/521/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, रामगढ़।

रामगढ़ थाना के सामने, थानाचौक/गांधी चौक, रामगढ़ कैन्ट, जिला–रामगढ़, झारखण्ड– 829122, ई-मेल–eercdramgarh-jhr@nic.in

"सूचना"

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि पथ प्रमण्डल, रामगढ़ अन्तर्गत एस०बी०डी० आधारित अति–अल्पकालीन ई–निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना का प्रसंग संख्या–RCD/RAMGARH/905/2025-26 दिनांक–19.09.2025 का P.R. No.- 363078 Road (25-26)_D द्वारा आमंत्रित अति अल्पकालीन ई–निविदा में निम्न प्रकार पुनः संशोधित किया जाता है:–

क्रमांक	विवरणी	पूर्व में आमंत्रित तिथि	संशोधन की तिथि
1.	वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशित होने की तिथि एवं समय	07.10.2025 10:30 बजे पूर्वाह्न	14.10.2025 10:30बजे पूर्वाह्न
2.	निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	14.10.2025 12:00 बजे दिन तक	28.10.2025 12:00 बजे दिन तक

शेष यथावत रहेंगे।

कार्यपालक अभियंता,
पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल,
रामगढ़।

PR 363312 Road(25-26)D

Hassanamba festival: Curbs on 'VIP culture', says minister

BENGALURU, DHNS: The government has decided to restrict 'VIP culture' during the Hassanamba festival to make it more people-friendly this time, Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda said on Monday.

Gowda, the Hassan district in-charge minister, issued a statement to this effect after chairing a meeting with elected representatives and officials to discuss the festival that will be held between October 10 and 22.

"People are fed up with 'VIP culture', which we want to end," Gowda told reporters. He said VIP escorts created a nuisance last year.

"This time, escorts will be allowed for the Governor, chief minister, deputy chief minister, home minister, High Court Justices, Supreme Court Justices and the former prime minister," Gowda said.

The minister said lawmakers, ministers, judges, sportspersons and film stars should inform authorities in advance via email or phone about their visit to the temple. "The district administration will arrange a vehicle for such people. No private vehicle is allowed. Also, only four members from one family will be permitted," Gowda said.

Gowda said two categories of passes will be issued - Rs 300 and Rs 1,000. "One person will be allowed per pass. Passholders will get prasada. They will be allowed into the temple between 7.30 am and 10 am. A total of 1,000 passes will be issued daily," Gowda said. "Those coming with escorts will be allowed between 10.30am and 12.30pm," he added.

Gowda said 25 lakh people are expected to visit Hassanamba temple during the festival. The district administration has made adequate preparations, he said. A total of 2,000 police personnel will be deployed.

Fresh tenders to bring Bengaluru suburban rail project back on track

K-RIDE decides after L&T terminated contract

There is no estimated deadline for the 149-km Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project (BSRP).

BENGALURU, DHNS

The 149-km Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project (BSRP) is limping back on track, with K-RIDE deciding to call fresh tenders for two corridors where work had stalled following a dispute with the contractor.

The 10-member K-RIDE board, led by Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh, decided Monday to invite fresh tenders to complete the remaining civil work on Corridor 2 (Benniganahalli-Chikkabanavara, 25.01 km) and Corridor 4 (Heelalige-Rajanukunte, 46.88 km).

The move, based on the advice of the Advocate General, comes ironically in the very month when the entire project of four corridors was supposed to complete, as per a 40-month public deadline set by PM Narendra Modi in June 2020.

Touted as an ambitious project that will complement Namma Metro, BSRP has struggled to take off due to coordination issues between Karnataka and the railways. Work began only on two corridors but came to a halt in March this year. Physical progress is just 18.5%.

L&T was awarded the contract for Corridor 2 on Aug 26, 2022, and for Corridor 4 on Dec 30, 2023. But, on July 28, L&T terminated both contracts and demanded Rs 505 crore in claims.

In a legal notice, L&T said that even 22 months after the Letter of Acceptance, only 12.83 km or 49.44% of the workfront was made available, that, too, in "unworkable fragmented stretches". The company initiated arbitration proceedings on August 8.

With L&T out of the picture, the K-RIDE board has now decided to call fresh tenders. It's also contesting a commercial court's stay on encashing L&T's bank guarantee.

Tenders for Corridor 2 will be floated in three packages (Chikkabanavara-Yeshwantpur, Yeshwantpur-Hebbal and Hebbal-Benniganahalli) in the next few days, and the work order will be awarded by December. Corridor 4 tenders will be invited in November, and contracts will likely be awarded early next year.

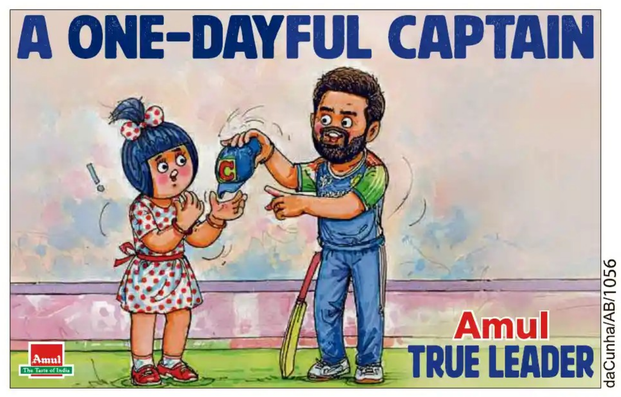
K-RIDE Managing Director Govinda Reddy said they had no other option but to call fresh tenders after L&T "illegally and unilaterally" terminated the contract and went for arbitration.

"We cannot stop work pending arbitration," he told *DH*, expressing hope of expediting construction on Corridor 2, where 20% work has been completed and K-RIDE has 92% of the land.

Work on Corridor 4 will begin later when at least 80% of the land is available, he added.

Reddy said things were also looking up on rolling stock procurement, with the railways giving in-principle approval a few months ago to provide 50% equity to buy 306 metro-like coaches for Rs 4,270.30 crore.

Sources said the deadlines for Chikkabanavara-Yeshwantpur and Hebbal-Benniganahalli packages would be 18 months from the award date, and 24 months for Yeshwantpur-Hebbal. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs is yet to approve the railways' proposal to provide 50% equity for rolling stock procurement, sources said.



Transgender body flags survey flaws, demands door-to-door enumeration

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Karnataka Transgender Task Force (KTTF) has raised serious concerns over discrimination and structural challenges faced by the transgender community during the state government's ongoing socio-educational survey, which commenced on September 22.

The KTTF, led by transgender activist Akkai Padmashali and members Sowmya, Christy, Rakshitha and Shruthi held a meeting at SCM house on Monday with members of the hijra community and other gender minorities to consolidate feedback on the enumeration process. The primary challenge cited was the mandatory requirement for transgender persons to report to assigned places, primarily district hospitals, for registration.

Speaking on the challenges of institutional bias, Padmashali stated that even basic interactions remain humiliating for community members. "If we go to government hospitals, they make us wait and go around. They treat us very badly and act like outcasts," she noted.

Another transgender activist, Christy, voiced concern over the short window and lack of government sensitivity to the community's diverse structure. "The government doesn't know the various communities amongst us, and within 45 days, they are trying to collect the census data survey," Christy said, alleging discrimination. She emphasised that the mandatory nature of visiting assigned centres has been difficult.

Trans woman Meena, also highlighted the practical issues for those living in community houses. "We are 25 people in a residence. It's difficult for us to go and enumerate ourselves at the hospital. For other citizens, they come to their homes and conduct surveys; similarly, why can't they come to our homes?" she questioned.

The meeting revealed that in Bengaluru alone, the community is organised into seven distinct 'houses' or 'classes', whose needs are often overlooked in blanket policy implementation.

The core demand from the meeting is the immediate expansion of the enumeration methodology. Padmashali confirmed that formal recommendations have been submitted to the Deputy Commissioner and Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh.

"What we now need is: those who can go to the hospital may go and enumerate themselves, but for those who cannot, the government should expand the survey to their organisations, and a door-to-door survey should be immediately implemented," she asserted.

Ponzi firm investors to get money back as ED to restitute assets worth Rs 20 crore

BENGALURU, DHNS: Investors of Bengaluru-based Ponzi company Injaz International are set to get some of their money back as a city court has ordered restituting attached immovable properties worth over Rs 20 crore.

The Principal City Civil and Sessions Judge passed the order after the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) did not submit objections to an application filed by the competent authority for releasing attached properties.

As per an ED statement, the Bengaluru Zonal Office will restitute properties valued at Rs 20.16 crore to investors. The properties were attached as they were considered proceeds of crime.

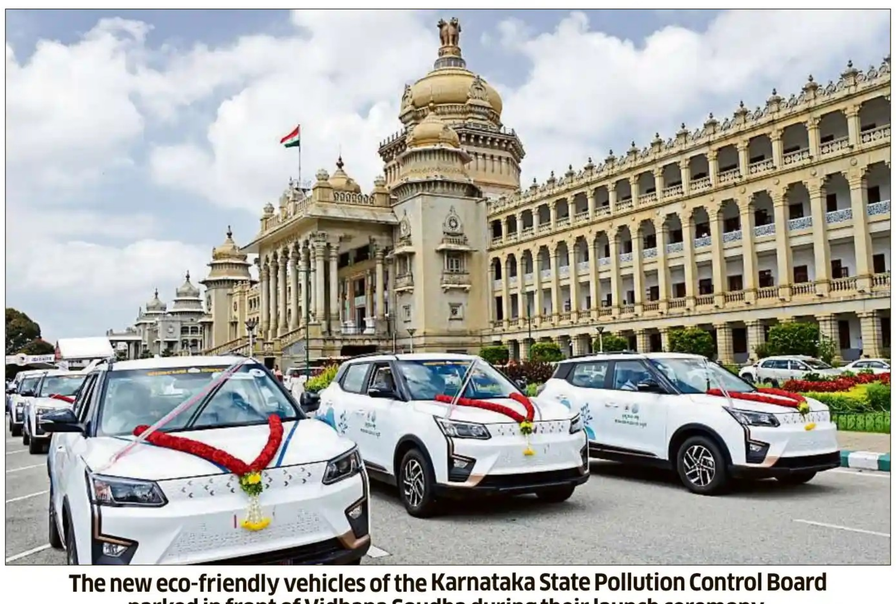
The ED launched a probe following a complaint by Revenue Inspector, Yelahanka Tahsildar Office, and an FIR registered by Wilson Garden police on Sept 7, 2018.

The FIR named Injaz International and associated group under various sections of Indian Penal Code, Prize Chits & Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, & Chit Funds Act.

The FIR is presently being investigated by the Financial Intelligence Unit of the CID.

According to the ED, its investigation revealed that Injaz International received huge amounts in the name of a chit fund scheme, but diverted them to buy immovable properties as well as for the personal expenses of the firm's partners.

GREEN TRANSPORT



The new eco-friendly vehicles of the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board parked in front of Vidhana Soudha during their launch ceremony, in Bengaluru on Monday. DH PHOTO/B K JANARDHAN

MUDA case: ED attaches sites, other immovable assets worth Rs 40 crore

Agency says searches revealed 'deep nexus' of MUDA officials, realtors

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) said it had provisionally attached 34 immovable properties, including MUDA sites, under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act in connection with the MUDA scam.

The properties, attached on October 4, have a market value of Rs 40.08 crore, it added.

The central agency has so far attached Rs 440 crore worth of proceeds of crime in the case under PMLA, including 252 MUDA sites attached previously.

According to the ED, it started investigating the site allotment scam in the Mysore Urban Development Authority (MUDA) on the basis of an FIR registered by the Mysuru Lokayukta police.

The case involves alleged irregularities in alternative sites allotted to B M Parvathi, wife of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. However, the High Court of Karnataka has quashed ED proceedings against Parvathi, and the Supreme Court has upheld the decision. A judicial commission headed by retired high court judge Justice P N Desai has also given a clean chit to the chief minister and his family.

ED investigations revealed that "undue gratification" obtained by former MUDA commissioner G T Dinesh Kumar were "routed and layered", eventually being used to buy immovable properties in the name of his relatives and associates.

Kumar also "illegally" allotted 31 MUDA sites. He was arrested on September 16 and is currently in judicial custody.

The ED conducted searches on October 18 and 28 last year. It found that the sites were allotted in "gross violation" of a letter dated March 14, 2023, a Government Order dated October 27, 2023, the Karnataka Urban Development Authorities (Allotment of Sites in lieu of Compensation for the Land Acquired) Rules, 2009, as amended in 2015, and the Karnataka Urban Development Authority (Incentive Scheme for Voluntary Surrender of Land) Rules, 1991.

According to the ED, its searches also revealed a "deep nexus" between MUDA officials and real-estate businessmen, with evidence revealing payment of cash for site allotment as compensation and approval of layouts.

Govt to establish German language exam centre in B'luru

RASHMI BELUR
BENGALURU, DHNS

In a bid to help those trained by the Skill Development Department secure employment abroad, the state government has decided to establish a foreign language examination centre – a first in Karnataka – for German in Bengaluru.

The Skill Development Department's decision was prompted by the long wait that students endure to take the German language examination at the Goethe Institute – the only place that both offers courses and holds examinations in German. The department is also slated to offer German language lessons to healthcare workers. Meanwhile, others can also register for the German language examination held at the government's centre.

The Karnataka Vocational Training and Skill Development Corporation (KVTSDC) has tied up with the German Agency for International Healthcare Professionals (DeFa) for this initiative.

Karnataka Skill Development Corporation Managing Director Nagaraja N M said, "After we submitted a proposal for the examination centre, a team from Germany visited the Karnataka Technical Training Institute in Bengaluru where we are planning to set up the centre, and took stock of the facilities. We are waiting for approval from the authorities concerned."

KVTSDC officials said that healthcare workers could register for German, Japanese, Italian, Spanish and English language lessons till the end of October. Workers can enrol in these courses for free, said officials.

"More than 800 nurses have enrolled in our free training programmes. Since there is a huge demand for healthcare professionals in Germany, we decided to train and hold examinations to help the workers secure employment abroad. Germany is looking for at least 10,000 healthcare professionals, especially nurses. Knowledge of German language will be an asset for our candidates," added Nagaraja.

Healthcare professionals eager to enrol in the government's free foreign language training programme can register on: http://nursesflt.ksdckarnataka.com.

Improving global employment prospects

The objective of this initiative is to promote safe, ethical and humane migration policies by training skilled professionals from Karnataka in foreign languages and awarding internationally recognised certifications, thereby improving their employment prospects across the globe, said Sharan Prakash Patil, minister for skill development

The Karnataka Transgender Task Force members hold a meeting with members of gender minorities to discuss challenges faced by them in the ongoing socio-educational survey, in Bengaluru on Monday. DH PHOTO/B K JANARDHAN

Board hikes fee for SSLC exams by 5%

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB) has increased the SSLC examination fee exams by 5%, with the new fee coming into effect for the 2026 examinations.

Consequently, the fee for students appearing for the SSLC examinations for the first time has been increased from Rs 676 to Rs 710. In its notification, the board cited an order issued in 2020, wherein it was stated that the exam fee would be hiked every year.

The board has also directed the schools to collect the revised fee from students registering for exams under any category. "The 5% hike is applicable across the board -- for those writing the exam for the first time, repeaters and private candidates," read the circular.

However, the Department of School Education and Literacy has released a draft about proposed changes in the SSLC exam pattern, which authorities are mulling to model on the lines of the CBSE exams. But there has been no official order on this issue, triggering confusion among stakeholders.

Revised and existing fees

Category	Existing fees	Revised fees
Freshers	Rs 676	**Rs 710**
Pvt Freshers	Rs 236	**Rs 248**
Regd pvt candidates	Rs 69	**Rs 72**
Repeaters regular/pvt	Rs 427	**Rs 448** (1 sub)
Repeaters regular/pvt	Rs 532 (2 sub)	**Rs 559**
Repeaters regular/pvt	Rs 716 (3 or more subjects)	**Rs 752**

Summit sparks debates on alternate future for carbon

BENGALURU, DHNS

Alt carbon, a deep tech science and data company building agri-infrastructure for climate action, held a summit on an alternate future for carbon.

The summit had workshops led by rating agencies and registries, spotlights from space-tech, agri-tech, and carbon removal companies.

The company has taken up a project to restore Darjeeling's tea industry through multiple ways including rock weathering, permanently removing atmospheric carbon and improving soil health. This approach aids in carbon removal and supports the local economy, preserves biodiversity, and promotes sustainable agricultural practices.

The panel discussion with the carbon buyers explored the demands, standards and marketplaces of the carbon credits. The bankers panel discussion dwelt on topics as diverse as Green loans to carbon-linked bonds and capital.

From venture funds to infrastructure investors, capital is increasingly flowing into carbon removal technologies. The emerging sector is being seen as both a climate necessity and a long-term investment opportunity. A panel on carbon removal discussed how science, policy, and market signals are shaping what could become the next trillion-dollar climate industry.

Speakers noted that sustained investor interest suggests carbon removal could soon move from margins to mainstream. The discussion examined whether the sector can be both investable and inevitable.

Another session focused on the growing role of philanthropic and family office capital in advancing climate solutions. Experts said such funding can take early-stage risks that conventional markets cannot, helping de-risk innovation and build public goods. The discussion underscored that philanthropy, aligned with innovation, can drive systemic change rather than one-time aid.

At the India Decarbonization Panel, speakers emphasised that the country's growth story must also be a decarbonization story. The session explored pathways to reduce emissions across industry, agriculture, and energy without compromising development goals.

SC refuses to interfere with move to repatriate Russian woman, 2 kids

NEW DELHI, DHNS:

The Supreme Court on Monday refused to interfere with the decision to repatriate a Russian woman and her kids found living in a cave in Gokarna in Karnataka without any valid documents, saying this country has become a haven, anybody comes and stays here.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi came down heavily on Dror Shlomo Goldstein, an Israeli national who claimed to be father of the two daughters, for leaving them high and dry.

Nina Kutina, a Russian national, and her two children were found on July 11 in a cave in the Ramatirtha Hills near Kumta in Uttara Kannada district in July 2025.

The authorities claimed the three had been living in the cave for nearly two months without valid documents.

The court grilled the counsel appearing for the petitioner, also describing the plea as "publicity interest petition".

"Please show us any official document that you are declared the father. Why should we not direct your deportation? What were you doing in Goa when your children were living in cave," the bench asked the counsel.

On these questions, the counsel preferred to withdraw the petition, challenging the Karnataka High Court's order, which upheld the Union government's decision to facilitate the repatriation of the Russian woman and her daughters by issuing exit documents valid from September 25 to October 9, 2025.

The woman and the kids were discovered living in a cave near Gokarna after they reportedly ran out of money.

The petitioner claimed he had registered a police complaint at the Panaji police station in Goa last year after he was unable to trace his children. He had approached the High Court which declined to interfere with the decision to repatriate the woman and the daughters.

The Russian consulate had issued emergency travel papers for Kutina and her two daughters, as she expressed her desire to return to Russia at the earliest.

Five chosen for Valmiki award

BENGALURU, DHNS: The state government on Monday announced the winners of the Maharshi Valmiki award. Nagaraju Ganada Hunase (Bengaluru, media), P Thippeswamy (Chitradurga, theatre), J K Muthamma (Kodagu, organisation), Mulasidda Lakshmana Nayakodi (Vijayapura, social service) and K Uchchangappa (Vijayanagar, social work) have been chosen for the award, the government said.

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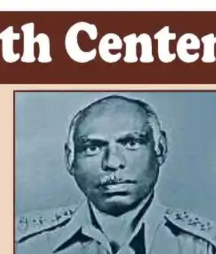
Birth Centenary



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No personal stand on separate Lingayat religion demand: CM

Extension of survey deadline: 'Will wait till Tuesday evening'

KOPPAL, DHNS

A day after attending the Basava Culture Campaign 2025, organised by a section of Virakta Mutt seers to renew demand for separate religion tag for Lingayats, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said on Monday that he has no stand on the issue.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of an event to inaugurate, lay foundation stone for government projects and programmes, the chief minister said, "I have no stand (on demand for separate religious status for Lingayats). Some Virakta mutt seers are demanding it. The stand of people is my stand. We will write what they say their religion is during the survey."

The Veerashaiva-Lingayat community is in a state of confusion. The Pancha Peetadhishas, a section of Virakta Mutt seers and the apex body Akhila Bharatha Veerashaiva Lingayat Mahasabha are of the opinion that Veerashaivas and Lingayats are same and that the faithfuls should mention Hindu their religion and Veerashaiva-Lingayat as caste while another section, along with Jagatika Lingayat Mahasabha, is seeking separate religion tag.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah inaugurates various development works at a programme in Koppal on Monday. DH PHOTO/BHARATH KANDAKUR

Defending the social and educational survey, Siddaramaiah in an indirect swipe at the BJP, said "The ones who are opposing the creation of a classless and egalitarian society are misleading people on the survey."

"Should the social and educational survey be conducted or not? If not done, how will we know about individuals' employment, educational and financial status? What is one's situation in society? To know that we need data, and to gather data, this survey is being done," he said, replying to queries on allegations that the survey was taken up to divide society.

"The BJP leaders keep claiming that guarantee schemes have pushed the government towards bankruptcy. But it was the previous BJP government which had steered the state to crisis by approving projects beyond means. We have bolstered the economy through guarantee schemes. Karnataka is number one in per capita income across India," the CM said.

On talks about extending deadline of the survey, the CM said, "We will wait till Tuesday evening. If it's not completed by then, a decision will be made on extending the deadline".

CM proposes Basavanna's name for 'Namma Metro'

BENGALURU, DHNS: CM Siddaramaiah said that the state government would recommend to the Centre for naming Bengaluru's metro network after 12th century social reformer Basavanna.

"If Namma Metro had been state government's exclusive project, I would have announced the decision to name it 'Basavanna Metro' today itself. But since the Centre's permission is needed for changing the name, we will write to them," he said. The CM was speaking at the valedictory of 'Basava Samskriti Abhiyana' on Sunday. In Jan 2024, the government announced Basavanna as Karnataka's 'cultural leader'. At Sunday's event, the CM said his government would take steps to establish a Vachana University next year.

SC certificates for Dalits converting to Buddhism

To mention their religion as Buddhism in records

BENGALURU, DHNS

Dalits who convert to Buddhism will be given Scheduled Caste (SC) certificates for the purpose of employment and education, the state government ordered on Monday.

This will apply to persons belonging to any of the 101 Scheduled Castes who convert to Buddhism, the social welfare department said in its order. According to the order, SC persons converting as Buddhists should be allowed to identify their religion as Buddhism in caste certificate application form. Similarly, SC persons who become Buddhists may state their religion as 'Buddhism' in academic records in schools & colleges.

The order said the union government, in 1990, allowed Dalits converting to Buddhism to obtain SC certificates. Based on this, the state government issued a circular in 2013. In 2016, the union government asked chief secretaries of all states to ensure that Dalits who become Buddhists get SC certificates.

"Although a circular was issued, several organisations have petitioned the government seeking clarity and an appropriate order on this," the social welfare department said.

The order comes at a time when Karnataka is carrying out a caste census. Recently, a separate survey was done covering Scheduled Castes for the purpose of sub-classification or internal reservation. Buddhists are a religious minority in Karnataka along with Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Zoroastrians (Parsis) and Jains. As per 2011 census, there were 95,000 Buddhists in the state.

In Karnataka, Buddhists come under OBC Category-2A with 15% reservation. Christians and Jains come under Category-3B with 5% reservation. Muslims are under Category-2B with 4% quota.

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Public are hereby notified that my client proposes to purchase the Item No. 1 and 2 Properties described in the Schedule herein from **Smt. R. LAVANYA SRINIVAS,** Wife of Sri. R.Srinivas, Ramaiah Garden, Vidyasagara, Thanisandra Main Road, SRK Nagar Post, BANGALORE-560077, who has represented that she purchased the Site in Item No.1 from her vendors Smt. Uma and others in terms of a Sale Deed dated 04/06/2015, registered as Document No.1673/2015-16 in Book-I and stored in C.D. No. KRID 557 in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Krishnarajapuram, Bangalore and acquired the Site in Item No.2 in terms of a Gift Deed dated 12/06/2003, registered as Document No.4831/2003-04 in Book-I and stored in C.D.No. 91 in the Office of the Photo Registrar, Krishnarajapuram , Bangalore (Urban) District, read with Deed of Rectification dated 23/04/2025, registered as Document No. BNS-1-01122-2025-26 in Book-I and stored in Centralized Data Cell in the Electronic Form in the Office of the Sub- Registrar, (Shivajinagara), Banasavadi, Bangalore executed by her father Sri.H. Ramappa and constructed a building which is utilized for running an educational institution/School . Any person or persons objecting for the proposed purchase and any persons who are having any right, title, interest or ownership or any other right or claim in the Schedule Property including by way of any agreement or otherwise shall lodge his/her/ their objections and/or claims with the undersigned along with supporting documentary evidence within **Fifteen (15) days** from the date of this publication. Further, claims or alleged interest or objections if any, which are not received within Fifteen (15) days from the date of publication of this notice shall be considered to have been consciously waived or abandoned for all intents and purposes and shall no longer be considered. Any objections and/or claims and/or response received thereafter will not be considered by my client and my client will proceed to purchase the Schedule Property as if there are no claims/objections.
SCHEDULE
Item No.1 All that Property being Site No.24 with building thereon presently bearing Municipal 5334/Sy.No.30/2/Site No.24 (EPID No.3421987588), situated in Municipal Ward No. 54 of Hoodi, Varanasi also known as Jinkethimmanahalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk and built on Site measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 40 feet, totally measuring 1600 Sq. Ft., area and the Property is bounded by: **East by :** Road **West by :** Site No.23 **North by :** Road and **South by :** Site No.25
Item No.2 All that Property being Site with building thereon presently bearing Municipal No. Sy.No.108/30/2 (EPID No.2053182655), situated in Municipal Ward No. 54 of Hoodi, Varanasi also known as Jinkethimmanahalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk and built on Site measuring East to West 135 feet and North to South 165 feet, totally measuring 22275 Sq. Ft., area and the Property is bounded by: **East by :** Road **West by :** Private Property **North by :** Private Property and **South by :** Panchayath Road
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Sri. Kusuma Kaushik
Advocates,
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CHANGE OF NAME
I JAMUNA SUBHAKARA REDDY W/o K C SUBHAKARA REDDY R/a #12B, 3rd Cross, Kempapura, Yemalur Post, Bangalore-560037 have changed my name to **N R JAMUNA** vide affidavit dated: 06.10.2025 before Notary B M Chandrashekhar, Bangalore.

I, **GAGAN** PRADHAN, Residing at Haladia Village, Sasanipada Post, Marsanghai, Kendrapara dist. Odisha-754213 have changed my name as GAGAN KUMAR PRADHAN, vide affidavit dated 3/10/2025 before Notary D.S. Satyanarayana, Bengaluru

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BJP holds booth-level agents' meet ahead of SIR in state

BENGALURU, DHNS: The BJP on Monday began preparations for the anticipated Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in Karnataka by convening a meeting of its booth-level agents.

BJP central disciplinary committee chairman Om Pathak participated in the workshop.

Speaking to reporters before the workshop began, he said: "A lot of people have tried to create confusion, but the reality is different. The ECI has decided to conduct SIR across the country for electoral rolls. It has completed the exercise in Bihar. Now, they are doing it in Assam, Karnataka and West Bengal. Having a purified electoral roll is essential. Or else, some non-citizens enter the voters' list as infiltrators. This dents the integrity and sovereignty of the country".

Pathak claimed that SIR was conducted in all states till 2004. "But, after 2004, the Congress government stopped the practice of SIR. Now, it has been resumed. We welcome it. It's a very positive move to make the electoral rolls transparent".

"Any citizen of the country who is eligible to be a voter should not be left out of the voter rolls, and no illegal infiltrator - who isn't a citizen of the country - should be on the voters' list," he said.

Lingayat vs Veerashaiva 'religion' row...

Lingayat, from Page 1

By Monday, 1.15 crore households were covered across Karnataka. In Bengaluru, 1.36 lakh households were surveyed.

Sunday's event was widely seen as an attempt to consolidate Lingayats, considered as the BJP's support base, in favour of the Congress. Also, the event was held without the Mahasabha.

"Our stand is clear: Lingayat and Veerashaiva are the same. Shivakumara Swami (late Siddaganga Mutt pontiff) and all Mahasabha presidents have clarified that Lingayat and Veerashaiva mean the same," Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre, the Mahasabha secretary-general, said. "There is no strength in division," he added.

Khandre maintained that Veerashaiva-Lingayats were Hindus by virtue of living in India. "But in terms of practices, we are a separate Veerashaiva-Lingayat religion."

Industries Minister M B Patil, who attended Sunday's event, maintained that the Lingayat faith was an Indic religion like Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism. "This time, people are more aware. Everyone is united," Patil, who led the Lingayat religion movement in the previous Congress government, said. Asked about Mahasabha's exclusion from Sunday's event, he said: "Those with a dual stand were not invited. Only those in favour of Basavanna were invited."

Patil pointed out that the Mahasabha itself had resolved that "Veerashaiva-Lingayats' were not Hindus. "So, they have already come halfway to meet us," he said. "We are not anti-Hindu or anti-Veerashaiva," he added.

Jarkiholi to seek two Cabinet berths for Valmiki community

BELAGAVI, DHNS: Public Works Minister Satish Jarkiholi has said that he would meet Chief Minister Siddaramaiah under the leadership of Valmiki community seer Prasannananda Swami and urge him to fill the two vacant posts in the Cabinet with representatives from Valmiki community .

Jarkiholi told reporters here on Monday a similar request was made earlier and he would meet chief minister again during the Valmiki Jayanti celebrations in Bengaluru on Tuesday. "We will put forth the request before the KPCC President and Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar also," he said.

Ganja worth Rs 10.45 lakh seized; one arrested

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Halasuru Gate police have seized over 10 kg of ganja, valued at approximately Rs 10.45 lakh, and arrested one person in connection with the case. Another suspect is absconding.

On September 28, police patrolling KG Road received a tip-off about an Assamese man allegedly selling narcotics near Bannappa Park. Acting swiftly, the officers apprehended Kushala CS, recovering 1.415 kg of ganja, eight plastic zipper pouches, a black bag, and Rs 600 in cash from his possession. The police noted that the pouches were likely used to distribute the drugs in smaller quantities.

Subsequently, the police traced the address of a second suspect, Jayaprakash, and conducted a search at his residence. There, they seized an additional 9.02 kg of ganja, along with packaging materials and a weighing machine.

Kushala is currently in police custody. Authorities are continuing efforts to apprehend Jayaprakash and identify the source of the narcotics.

Regulate purchase of sites in unapproved layouts, HC tells govt

AMBARISH B
BENGALURU, DHNS

The High Court said that with increasing instances of sites being purchased in lands that were not part of the sanctioned layouts, there was a pressing necessity for the state government to devise a comprehensive scheme to regulate such land transactions.

Justice Sachin Shankar Magadum said this while dismissing a petition seeking a direction for issuance of e-Khata in respect of a site bought in 2010.

The petitioner U Mamatha, of Holalkere town of Chitradurga district, had purchased the residential site in 2010 and submitted that the local authority had given her a manual Khata in 2015.

The petitioner said she has been regularly paying property tax in respect of the site. She had filed an application, enclosing title deed, conversion order and tax paid receipts, with the Holalkere Town Municipality seeking e-khata.

On June 21, 2024, the application was rejected on the basis of the circulars issued by the Urban Development Department and Department of Municipal Administration dated March 22, 2017 & Jan 5, 2018, respectively.

On the other hand, the Municipality submitted that the circulars prohibit the issuance of e-khata in respect of plots that do not have layout plan approval from competent authority.

It was further submitted that the municipality had also addressed a letter to the government seeking directions to enable issuance of e-khata by collecting betterment charges at 10% of current market value of sites.

But the state issued another circular in March 2018, specifically prohibiting issuance of e-Khata in respect of plots which do not have layout plan approval from competent authority.

After perusing the provisions of section 17(2B) of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning (KTCP) Act, Justice Magadum said although the site in question forms part of the land converted for residential purposes, the admitted position is that the same does not form part of an approved layout.

Sec 17 (2B) of KTCP Act was consciously introduced with the legislative object of curbing haphazard and unregulated formation of sites in revenue lands and converted lands, the court said.

"The provision imposes a mandatory duty on landowners and developers to obtain approval of layout plan from competent planning authority. It stipulates that only upon development of the layout in accordance with sanctioned plan, securing a completion certificate, and handing over roads, civic amenity sites, and parks to local authority, can individual site owners acquire enforceable rights in respect of the sites. The object behind the insertion of sub-section (2B) is, therefore, to ensure orderly development of urban areas, proper provision of civic amenities and to prevent mushrooming of illegal layouts which burden public infrastructure," the judge said.

However, while dismissing the petition, the court said, "With increasing instances of purchasers acquiring sites in converted lands that are not part of sanctioned layouts, there is a pressing necessity for the state to devise a comprehensive scheme to regulate such transactions. Unless and until the state formulates appropriate guidelines or a regularisation mechanism consistent with object of Section 17(2B) of Karnataka, courts cannot, in individual cases, bypass statutory mandate and issue directions contrary to law. The legislative intent behind insertion of Section 17(2B) is to strike a balance between urban development and rights of innocent purchasers."

Sharavathi pumped storage project tackles future power shortage: George

SHIVAMOGGA, DHNS: The Rs 2,000-crore Sharavathi pumped storage project will address potential power shortage in the coming decades, Energy Minister K J George has said.

"The existing power stations in Sharvathi valley are generating 1,000 MW of hydropower and with the pumped storage project the power production will go up to 3,000 MW, significantly enhancing the availability of power for public use," the minister said.

He was speaking to reporters after inspecting Bhadra dam near Shivamogga on Monday.

He said that the project has been facing opposition from various quarters, including environmental groups and local residents.

"We have assured the public and environmentalists that there will be no eviction of people and no destruction of the environment. Plants will be grown naturally near the pipeline that will pass through the forest in the 120 acres of land being used for this project," he said.

He reiterated that there would be no land acquisition for the project and that all government regulations and clearances, including those of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, would be strictly followed.

State in alert mode after kids' death due to cough syrup in MP, Rajasthan

Watch out for 'tainted' brands, batch numbers, officials told

BENGALURU, DHNS

After a series of deaths of children in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, caused by the consumption of cough syrup, the Karnataka government has cautioned against the use of Coldrilf Syrup, Batch No. SR-13, Mfg. Date: May 2025, Expiry Date: April 2027, Manufactured by M/s Sreesan Pharma, Kanchipuram and Dextromethorphan Hydrobromide Syrup IP, Manufactured by M/s Kaysons Pharma, Jaipur,

The government has advised the enforcement officials to watch out for the combination and batch number and if the same has been found with any distributors, retailers or government institutions, they should immediately draw samples for drug test. If found to be fatal, necessary action will be initiated under Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

All samples

Health and Family Welfare Minister Dinesh Gundurao said, "As a precautionary measure, samples of cough syrups from all companies are being collected and tested. The health department has already initiated preventive steps to ensure the safety of syrups in circulation".

The state's drug control department has been vigilant for a long time. Karnataka ranks among the top states in the country for medicine testing, he added.

"The cough syrups that caused the deaths of children in other states have not been supplied in Karnataka," the minister clarified.

He advised parents to be cautious while giving syrup to children below five years of age.

The minister emphasized that there was a need for stronger central laws to curb adulteration and for an inter-state information sharing system to be established.

The Centre should create a dedicated website for real-time exchange of information of drug adulteration.

"I had earlier written to the union government regarding the drug adulteration, counterfeit medicines and testing mechanisms," he added.

Advisory issued

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has issued an advisory directing that cough and cold syrups should not be prescribed or dispensed to children below two years of age. For children between two and five years of age, such medications should generally be avoided, unless clearly indicated and prescribed after proper clinical evaluation. It also states that for older children, cough syrups, if required, must be used only after a thorough clinical assessment, in the lowest effective dose and for the shortest duration, and fixed dose. Also, multi-drug combinations (irrational combinations, oral bronchodilators, cough suppressants) should be avoided.

It further directs all healthcare providers to adhere to the Standard Treatment Protocols Therapeutic Guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood illness (IMNCI) guidelines for the clinical management of cough and respiratory symptoms in children.

Any adverse events or suspected cases of cough syrup-related toxicity or death, as well as any unusual or unexplained increase in incidence of cough among children or the community, must be promptly investigated and reported in the IHIP portal of the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) Division, Directorate of Health & Family Welfare.

Ramaiah Institute of Technology welcomes freshers

(Left to right) Tallam Venkatesh, Dr Parswanath H V, M R Janakiram, Dr Dilip Krishnaswamy, Dr M R Seetharam, M R Kodandaram, V Nanda Kumar, M R Anandaram and Dr Karisiddappa.

Ramaiah Institute of Technology (RIT) held Fresher's Day for their first year B.E. and B.Arch students yesterday.

Dr Dilip Krishnaswamy, Director, C-DOT, Bengaluru, was the chief guest, while V Nanda Kumar, Head of Sustainability Services, DNV Business Assurance, and an alumnus of RIT, was the guest of honour. Gokula Education Foundation's Chairman Dr M R Seetharam, Vice Chairman M R Janakiram, Secretary M R Anandaram, Chief Executive (Engineering and General Sciences) Dr Parswanath H V, Chief Academic Advisor (Engineering and General Sciences) Dr Karisiddappa, along with RIT's Director M R Kodandaram, President - Alumni Association Tallam Venkatesh and Principal Dr N V R Naidu attended the event.

Dr Naidu welcomed the students. Dr Krishnaswamy advised the students to develop expertise in their chosen domain and also register for more courses to strengthen their skills. He called on the students to work for the development of the country rather than go abroad.

Nanda Kumar shared his experience at RIT. He advised students to make full use of the facilities and adopt continuous learning as a practice. He called on them to meet the needs of society Dr M R Seetharam said this is the 64th batch. Thousands of students have benefited from the institute over the years and it has contributed significantly to the nation by nurturing talented students, he stated.

Dr Archna Narula, Registrar, RIT, proposed the vote of thanks.

Curated by DH Brandspot

DEITY'S DAY OUT

A large number of devotees take part in the car festival of Goddess Chamundeshwari atop Chamundi Hill in Mysuru on Monday. DH PHOTO/ANUP RAGH T

Bihar 2025 may see...

Bihar, from Page 1

And yet it had to continue in the Opposition benches because the BJP and the JD(U) combined could poll just enough votes to cross the halfway mark.

The outcome also showed the limitations of social combination stitched by the I.N.D.I.A bloc, relying chiefly on the Muslim and Yadav voters, leaving the NDA unchallenged over a vast tract, especially in north Bihar.

In Muslim-dominated Seemanchal, AIMIM's Asaduddin Owaisi continues to push the envelope further. He won 5 seats in 2020, and every vote he takes is at the cost of the RJD.

The Congress has failed to bring much to the table in Bihar. In 2020, it dragged the alliance down with a dismal strike rate by winning just 19 seats out of 70 allocated by the RJD. Rahul Gandhi's yatra has invigorated the party cadre and its organisation. But will that be enough to convert votes into seats?

The silver lining for the I.N.D.I.A bloc in Bihar has been the emergence of CPI (Marxist-Leninists). In 2020, the party won 12 out of 19 seats in south and central Bihar.

The X factor

Election strategist-turned-politician Prashant Kishor's Jan Suraaj is the new kid in town.

Kishor has focused on Bihar's economy, development and unemployment, calling upon youth to seek change. On the face of it, he may appear to be impinging on NDA's core constituency. But the devil lies in the details of Kishor's candidate list.

In a state where caste remains a decisive factor, much would depend on Jan Suraaj's candidate selection, especially if Kishor were to pick local strongmen who fail to make the cut in the I.N.D.I.A and the NDA list. The vote difference between NDA and the I.N.D.I.A bloc in the last elections was less than 15,000 votes. In a close contest, every vote counts. The smaller and non-aligned forces, thus, can play a tactical role.

SIT continues questioning ambulance drivers

MANGALURU, DHNS: The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing alleged mass burial case in Dharmasthala continued the questioning of two ambulance drivers for second day on Monday.

Jaleel and Hamid, who appeared at the SIT office in Belthangady, were questioned about shifting the bodies found in Dharmasthala village. The two had also appeared before the SIT officials earlier on October 4 for inquiry.

Forest department personnel visited the forest area near the Netravathi bathing ghat, where human remains were found on the surface, and conducted an inspection. According to sources, the area where the remains were found is a reserved forest area. The inspection was carried out to verify records and gather concrete documentation related to the location, the sources added.

Senior SIT sources told *DH* that crucial developments are expected in the coming days, with the team currently dealing with multiple interconnected issues. "We are progressing with the investigation, but it's difficult to specify a timeline for its final report," he said.

The source further revealed that Sujatha Bhat has been giving inconsistent statements, making it difficult to rely on her allegations.

'Can't specify deadline'

Meanwhile, Home Minister G Parameshwara said that SIT has been directed to submit its report at the earliest. "However, the government cannot specify an exact timeline for the submission of the report. We cannot interfere with or dictate the course of the investigation," he said.

"The chemical and DNA analysis of the samples require a detailed process. We cannot ask the Forensic Science Laboratory to submit the report immediately. However, the government has instructed the FSL to give this case priority.

Govt likely to extend socio-edu survey, school timings revised

Survey, from Page 1

In all, 1.17 crore out of the targeted 1.43 crore have been surveyed.

The revised timings have irked teachers and parents. "If the child has to reach school at 8 am, we will have to leave home an hour early. Transportation will be a problem for students at rural areas," one teacher said.

"There are single-teacher schools. We need to serve them mid-day meals as well. After doing all the work at school, how can we take part in the survey? The government should consider that we're humans, too," another teacher said.

Earlier in the day, Home Minister G Parameshwara opined that extending the survey would ensure completion.

He said some districts had achieved 80% progress while it is 50% in other places.

"On an average, 80% of the survey work has been done and extending it by 4-5 days will help to achieve 100% progress," he said.

Lawyer tries to throw shoe at CJI inside SC

CJI, from Page 1

After Monday's incident, the SC Bar Association and the SC Advocate on Record Association issued separate resolutions condemning it as a direct assault on the independence of judiciary.

SCOARA Secretary Nikhil Jain said: "The behavior is antithetical to the dignity of the legal profession and contrary to the constitutional values of decorum, discipline and institutional integrity. Any attempt to malign or a personalised act/gesture aimed against a sitting judge of the Supreme Court constitutes a direct assault on the independence of the judiciary and undermines public faith in the justice delivery system."

SCOARA also sought suo motu contempt action as "the act/gesture is a calculated move to scandalise the authority of the Supreme Court".

Battle for Bihar: Stage set for 2-phase elections

Bihar polls, from Page 1

The polls will test the mettle of election strategist-turned-politician Prashant Kishore's Jan Suraaj party and also whether the Congress has gained ground after the 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' led by Rahul Gandhi.

In the coming days, it will also be clear whether Nitish's son Nishant will enter the poll fray.

The term of the 243-member Assembly ends on November 22. The NDA currently holds 131 seats, with the BJP holding 80, JD(U) 45, HAM(S) 4, and two Independents.

There are 38 seats reserved for SCs and two for STs.

Asked about holding the polls not in a single phase and just after Chhath festival on October 28, Kumar said the elections couldn't have been held before the announced dates as a certain minimum period is required for filing nomination and campaign. The 2020 elections were held in three phases during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On the new initiatives, Kumar said there will be mandatory VVPAT count for mismatches.

He said there will be VVPAT slip counting in each and every case of mismatch between Form 17C and EVM data and wherever mock poll data was not erased.

Voters can also reach out to their Booth Level Officers by booking a call through ECINet, an EC App, he said. For the first time, he said, there will be one General Observer for each constituency.

B'luru dominates flexible...

Flexible office, from Page 1

With enterprise corridors anchored by Embassy Tech Village, RMZ Ecospace and Helios, Outer Ring Road sees increasing enterprise demand.

With many IT campuses, competitive rentals and scalable Grade-A stock attracting IT/ITeS and GCC occupiers, Whitefield sees 8.3% flex share in Bengaluru. Experts are of the view that North Bengaluru will see more demand in the near future due to airport connectivity, as it makes it attractive for R&D and GCCs.

"Flexi office space used to have 5% market share of the overall office absorption, before Covid. But post-Covid, this percentage has increased to 20-25% as the market changed and more tenants adopted the flexi office model," said Nirupa Shankar, joint managing director of Brigade Enterprises.

She added that flexi office spaces could account for 25% to 30% of the total office absorption by 2030 as more organised players are entering the market. "In Bengaluru, Whitefield, ORR and HSR are popular destinations for flexible office spaces, and Northwest Bengaluru and North Bengaluru are upcoming," she added.

Recently, real estate consulting firm CBRE, in its report, mentioned that Bengaluru topped the list of 20 APAC cities with the highest flexible office stock at 15.5 mn sq ft in the APAC region, including Shanghai, Seoul and Tokyo.

Startups, SMEs and corporates drive flex office demand, and IT/ITeS companies are pioneering in embracing new work models and innovative workplace solutions.

myHQ by ANAROCK report highlighted that in the flexible workspace segment, IT/ITeS clients represent over 40% of total demand -- about 15% higher than their share in traditional commercial leasing. With India's GCC base projected to reach above 2,500 by 2030, Karnataka will see more flex demand.

Kawatra said startups were the pioneers that made flexible workspace aspirational in India; however, today, enterprises are cementing their indispensability. Flexible solutions currently account for 20% of all office transactions, and by 2030, their market penetration is set to reach around 30% -- one in three offices will operate within a flex space.

From a market standpoint, India's coworking sector is estimated at $3.98 billion in 2024. With Bengaluru's 31% share, the city's flex market can be pegged at around $1.23 billion.

◆ WEATHER ◆

Overview: Rainfall occurred at few places over South Interior and North Interior Karnataka and many places over Coastal Karnataka
Forecast Oct 07: Rainfall to occur at some places over the state.

INTERIOR NORTH

Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Belagavi	28.8	17.4	00
Bidar	28.8	19.8	04
Vijayapura	30.5	20.2	4.6
Dharwad	30.2	NA	00
Haveri	29.6	19.4	00
Kalaburagi	31	21.6	0.6
Raichur	32	21.4	00
COASTAL			
Honnavar	30.7	24.2	00
Karwar	32.6	23.4	00
Shirali	NA	NA	NA
Mangaluru	31.1	23.5	00

INTERIOR SOUTH

Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Agumbe	27.9	18.5	0.5
Bengaluru	30.3	20.3	6.8
Ballari	NA	NA	NA
Chamarajanagar	31.8	21.7	3.5
Chikkamagaluru	NA	NA	NA
Chitradurga	31.1	19.5	00
Davangere	31	20	00
Hassan	29.8	NA	00
Mysuru	32.4	20.2	00
Madikeri	NA	NA	NA
Kolar	30.2	19	1.4

OTHER STATIONS

New Delhi	34.1	20.6	10
Kolkata	31	25.4	0.2
Mumbai	29.7	23.9	0.6
Chennai	36.1	24.6	23
Pune	30	19	00
Hyderabad	30.1	22.1	15
Th'puram	33.7	24.8	00

AIR FORCE SCHOOL ASTE
NAL Wind Tunnel Road, Murgeshpalya, Bengaluru – 560017

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Air Force School, ASTE, invites tender for procurement of Enterprise Resource Planning(ERP). Tender forms are available on **www.afsaste.edu.in**

For details contact 080-25272332/25276920

KARNATAKA FOREST DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED PULPWOOD WING, SHIMOGA.
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
O/o The Executive Director,
KFDC Ltd., Near R.T.O Office, Shimoga
No.KFDC/ED/SHI/A6/CR-120/25-26/366 Date: 06.10.2025

e-BID NOTIFICATION

The e-tender is invited through e-procurement from the wood based industries i.e. pulp and paper / rayon grade pulp, MDF board manufacturing industries / Suppliers / Any other pulpwood consuming industries etc. existing in Karnataka or elsewhere for purchase of Eucalyptus / Acacia / Casurina / Subabool pulpwood from the Divisions which is under the control of Executive Director, Karnataka Forest Development Corporation Ltd., Shimoga. Value of Tender is Rs 50.00 Crore.

1. E portal e-tender : e-procurement portal website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ **2**. Date and time of receiving e-tender by e-procurement portal up to 17.30 hrs of 16.10.2025

The other details required if any pertaining to the bid may be obtained from the e-procurement portal office phone No. 080-46010000, 080-68948777/ aboveoffice phone No. 08182-272155 during the office hours.

Sd/- Executive Director, Shimoga

DIPR/smg/ksmca/25-26/14/10/1032

District Health And Family Welfare Office Bidar- DISTRICT BIDAR

No: DHFWS/2025-26/IND1863 Date: 03/10/2025

SHORT TERM E-TENDER

PROVIDING 2 No's Mobile Unit Vehicles For Anemia And TB Free to Bidar District Under Kalyan Karnataka Regional Development Board Kalaburgi TQ. DIST: BIDAR,

TENDER TIME TABLE:- 1) Tender Amount **Rs: 74.00 lakhs,** 2) Last Date & Time for submitting Tender Document on or before. **Date:13-10-2025** ಸಮಯ ಸಂಜೆ: **5.00**, 3) Date & Time of opening of Technical Bid **Date:14/10/2025** ಸಮಯ ಸಂಜೆ **5.15,** 4) Date & Time of opening of Financial Bid **Date:16/10/2025** ಮು:**11.00** ಗಂಟೆ, 5) E.M.D **Rs:148000/-,** 6) Contact No: 8095042010, 7) Website address www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- District Health And Family Welfare Office Bidar.

DIPR/Bidar/194/KSMC&A/2025-26

Government of Karnataka.
(Public Works, Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer PWD Division Bidar

NO: EE/PWD//DIVN/BDR/KKRDB/JE-5/ 2025-26/ 2064 Date: 26.09.2025

INVITATION FOR TENDER NOTIFICATION.

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, the Executive Engineer, PWD Division Bidar invites Tenders under KKRDB from eligible Tenderers. Amount put to tender for the works are Minimum **Rs. 32.81 Lakhs & Maximum Rs. 168.04 Lakhs.** PWD / 2025-26 / RD / IND / WORK INDENT 0163, 0165, 0166, 0167, 0168, 0169, 0170, 0173, 0174, 0175, 0178, 27943. Tender documents may be downloaded from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal of the Govt of Karnataka Viz. https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in **on 26.09.2025.** Tenders must be submitted through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal on or before **16.00 hours on 18.10.2025.** Further any other information can be seen from the e-procurement portal or can be had from the undersigned. Note :- Turn over certificate Without UDI Number will not be considered.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Division. Bidar.

DIPR/Bidar/196/KSMC&A/2025-26

DECCAN HERALD
ESTABLISHED 1948

Toxic syrup and a collapse of regulation

The death of at least 16 children linked to the consumption of contaminated cough syrup in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan exposes criminal negligence by the drug manufacturers and abject failure in regulatory supervision on the part of the drug control authorities. These incidents are particularly alarming because the consequences of altering the contents of a drug with dangerous substances would be known to the manufacturers; this is also a fallout of poor oversight by the monitoring authorities. The contaminated batch of Coldrif, the cough syrup which is considered to have caused the deaths, has been found to contain 48% diethylene glycol (DEG), 480 times the permissible limit of 0.1%. DEG is an industrial solvent, not meant for medicines, but used in pharmaceutical ingredients, often due to poor oversight or because of the cost advantage it provides.

Contaminated cough syrups have taken lives within the country and outside. Between 2019 and 2020, 12 children died in Jammu after consuming a syrup. After the deaths of children in Gambia, Uzbekistan, and Cameroon due to the consumption of Indian-made cough syrups since 2022, the WHO issued worldwide alerts. But deaths, alerts, and advisories within the country have not had an impact. While cough and cold medications are not recommended for children below five years, at least six of the children who died in Madhya Pradesh were under four. It is reported that many of the drug production units in India have not registered themselves under the revised Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), though the deadline for registration has been extended multiple times. This reveals a serious compliance gap that needs to be urgently addressed.

Children's deaths extend toll from recent tragedies, call for clean-up of manufacturing and regulatory processes

While these units flout production and manufacturing norms, the regulatory system and its established processes remain ineffective, weakening the enforcement of norms. Even the testing systems in place have been found as erratic and unreliable. The Union Health Ministry has now initiated inspections at the premises of drug manufacturing units in six states. States, including Karnataka, have brought in stringent checks on the use of cough syrups for children. The doctor who prescribed the syrup has been arrested, leading to protests by the IMA (Indian Medical Association), which contends that the doctor has been singled out while no action is initiated against the drug manufacturer. The manufacturing ecosystem needs to be cleaned up and the regulatory regime strengthened. It is the government's responsibility to ensure that there is no lapse at any stage, and that the guilty are served an apt and timely punishment that will act as a strong deterrent.

Prison party signals system breakdown

The viral video of Srinivasa alias Gubbachhi Seena, a notorious rowdy-sheeter lodged in Bengaluru's Parappana Agrahara Central Prison for allegedly murdering a rival, celebrating his birthday inside jail, once again exposes the deep rot in Karnataka's prison administration. The video shows inmates cheering him with cake, garlands, and a visible knife, laying bare the collapse of control inside the prison. For decades, Bengaluru Central Jail, which was later shifted to Parappana Agrahara, has been synonymous with lawlessness. From VIP treatment for the powerful to criminal syndicates operating freely, the prison has repeatedly mocked the concept of incarceration and reform. How do smartphones, weapons, and drugs routinely find their way inside? The answer is clear: Such breaches cannot occur without the collusion or wilful neglect of prison officers at multiple levels.

Actor Darshan Thoogudeepa's case serves as a telling example. Last year, while in judicial custody, he was caught on camera smoking and sipping a beverage with known underworld figures. The footage epitomised the culture of privilege and disregard for rules. When the Supreme Court cancelled his bail in August 2025 in the Renukaswamy murder case, it issued a stern warning that the jail superintendent would be suspended if VIP or "five-star" treatment were extended to the actor. The rot, however, runs deeper. The 2017 scandal involving V K Sasikala, political aide to the late Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa, remains a textbook case of how the jail was converted into a luxury retreat. The Vinay Kumar Committee confirmed that she was provided special facilities after bribes reportedly changed hands. Despite the findings, little has changed.

Undue privileges to influential inmates reveal an ecosystem of thriving corruption and failing oversight

Suspending a superintendent or ordering inquiries after every scandal is meaningless. These episodes are not isolated but symptoms of an entrenched ecosystem where corruption, intimidation, and complacency thrive. Prison warders are often complicit, oversight is perfunctory, and senior officers seldom conduct genuine inspections or hold subordinates accountable. The government must confront this decay with structural reform: independent monitoring of CCTV systems, frequent personnel rotation, surprise inspections by the Lok Ayukta, and criminal prosecution of complicit officers. Karnataka cannot allow its prisons to remain sanctuaries for the powerful. A birthday celebration inside a high-security jail may appear farcical, but it signals something far graver – the utter erosion of state authority behind bars. The government must act decisively, not by making a scapegoat of some officer, but by dismantling the nexus of corruption and restoring the rule of law so that the state's prisons are freed from the grip of criminal elements.

THE GULF PIVOT

Did India miss its moment in the West Asia reset?

As Pakistan's stock rises, India loses an opportunity to assert itself as a security player in the region

ASHOK K SINGH

The West Asia region is in great churn. Two events, in quick succession and seemingly related – the Israeli attack on Qatari capital Doha, and the Saudi Arabia-Pakistan Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement (SMDA) – have added to the quagmire. In more than 70 years of conflicts, Israel had never directly attacked a Gulf monarchy. This act of aggression has forced the Gulf nations to rethink their strategies vis-à-vis Israel.

Within days of the attack, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan signed the SMDA. The agreement stipulates that any external attack on either country will be considered an attack on both. Boastful Pakistani generals and commentators have been talking about Pakistan extending the nuclear umbrella to Saudi Arabia. The move is being interpreted as a deterrence aimed at Israel.

Some commentators have linked the agreement to the threat posed by Shia Iran to Sunni Saudi Arabia, though the two rivals have been working on rapprochement through Chinese mediation. A significant aspect of the SMDA, from India's perspective, is the speed and manner in which Pakistan has risen from diplomatic isolation and irrelevance. The Sharif-Munir regime has acquired a diplomatic heft in Washington that didn't look inevitable until Operation Sindoor. In Riyadh and the other Gulf capitals, Pakistan's stock has gone a couple of notches up.

Delhi is smarting from President Donald Trump's re-hyphenation of India with Pakistan. Islamabad is no longer "isolated" as Indian policymakers have been tirelessly telling the domestic audience. Ebullient Pakistani generals and civil society are untiringly pushing a narrative that under Munir, the country's status as a South Asian power has been recognised in the Western and Gulf capitals.

Neither development – the attack on Qatar that hosts the USAF Central Command headquarters at the Al Udeid airbase and the SMDA – could have happened without the US's tacit approval.

That leads us to ask a question whether Trump is recruiting Munir for a wider role in West and South Asia. Is he roping in the Pakistani army as a junior partner in stabilising West Asia as the US contemplates a gradually decreasing responsibility in ensuring security to Petro-dollar monarchs, a task in which Washington has failed? Does Trump have a plan for Munir in

Gaza and Afghanistan?

The fact is that Pakistan can play a limited role in standing as a security guarantor to the region. Its army can guard Saudi's holy cities, mosques, and the king's palaces, which it has already been doing but little beyond. On the other hand, India could have pitched itself as a net security guarantor to the region, besides guarding vital sea lanes to ensure an uninterrupted energy supply in collaboration with the US. For that, India needed to pursue a holistic and imaginative approach to the region.

India is a major regional power that has a presence in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) from the Arabian Peninsula to the mouth of the Malacca Strait. It was in a sweet spot with its enhanced relations with key Gulf monarchies in recent years, and existing and developing strategic partnerships with the Gulf nations, as well as the US, before Trump upended the entire calculus.

Regional goals and the Gaza drift

The idea that India could play a vital role in becoming a security guarantor to the region first came up when the Manmohan Singh government was in power. The idea was tossed about in some of the Gulf capitals following the US pivot to the Indo-Pacific and the Obama administration's passive role in the Syrian conflict. Gulf monarchs felt shaky about the future security void a US pullout could create.

Though China has been dramatically increasing its trade and economic footprint in the region, it has not been keen on pushing the military and security envelope. As rivals, the US and China are not expected to play complementary roles in West Asia's security arrangement.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's years saw India taking a different approach to the region, disregarding what the Gulf states possibly expected. Modi worked hard on strengthening the bilateral ties with the Gulf nations, the main focus being on economy, trade, immigration, and people-to-people relations. His approach has led to improved relations with individual Gulf rulers. But there has been no effort to strengthen ties with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) nations as a whole. The roadmap has lacked a region-specific vision.

India's stance on Israel's war against Gaza has further complicated matters for New Delhi. It is now viewed as standing with Zionist Israel against the Islamic nations. The Arab Street, which saw India as a friend, expressed amazement at its pluralism, diversity, and religious co-existence, is uncomfortable with the growing intolerance in the country.

One could argue that building bilateral relations, as against a regional approach, was a move to de-risk getting embroiled in messy intra-capital affairs. But in hindsight, it appears to be a missed opportunity, given the region's geography, India's large diaspora, and the extent of its energy security. That Trump is according a larger role to Pakistan as India is watching from the sidelines shows that India's policies for the Gulf region have not delivered.

(The author is a journalist who has worked in the Gulf countries)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

Graveyard games and chutney tales

Tamarind trees and tombstones played host to our childhood adventures

N J RAVI CHANDER

The land behind Bengaluru East Railway Station, where Lazar Layout now stands, was once a sprawling graveyard. The area stretched from Richards Town in the west to Cooke Town in the east and from Lingarajapuram in the north to Fraser Town in the south. During our younger days, my brothers and I would often sneak into the graveyard, which served as our secret haven and green lung. We'd spend our free time playing cricket, climbing the massive tamarind trees, or making tamarind chutney on the polished tombstones. The rustling of leaves, the sound of bat meeting ball, and the smooth feel of the tombstones are memories that still linger.

As expected, ghost stories circulated among the locals, who, steeped in superstition, dreaded venturing towards the cemetery road after dusk.

The fear of the unknown and the eerie silence at night kept them away. However, I recall policemen lurking near the Fraser Town underbridge, catching cyclists off guard for riding without lamps after dark and demanding bribes. A toll gate stood at the far end of the graveyard, allowing villagers to enter the town and conduct business. Farmers navigating their broods of ducks through the Fraser Town underbridge, clogging traffic, were a familiar sight. Dr Fernandez, a well-respected doctor, had a clinic near the cemetery, which attracted a steady stream of patients.

All this activity and the place's unique charm, with its massive tamarind trees and century-old tombstones, are now a part of history. The sweet scent of tamarind attracted curious children, rodents, and monkeys to the cemetery -- and all of them feasted on the ripe fruit. My brothers, friends and I would head there with our cricket gear. We would stash salt and chilli powder in our pockets, wrapped in newspaper. After a game of cricket with wickets marked on a tree trunk, we climbed the trees, gathered the unripe tamarinds, and prepared a delicious chutney paste on the tombstones. This unique setting gave us the best of nature and a chance to indulge ourselves.

A narrow path meandered through the burial ground, and my maternal grandfather, the late Lieutenant M Dharmalingam, used this route for his daily evening strolls. He'd walk up to the toll gate, umbrella in hand, then turn around and head back. He would pause to watch his teenage grandsons, us, play cricket with glee before moving on. A hockey player in his army days, he loved watching children play.

Unfortunately, nothing lasts forever. Workers arrived one day and desecrated the graves, felled the cherished tamarind trees, and flattened the ground. Within months, the levelled land transformed into a neighbourhood filled with rows of newly built homes. The once serene and green space turned into a bustling residential area. A Hindu temple at the cemetery's edge, which still stands, is a silent witness to the developments. Looking back, the time spent there during our salad days evokes fond memories.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Without best practices, India can't remain the 'pharmacy of the world'

Apropos 'Cough syrup deaths: MP cops book doctor, TN company' (Oct 6), drug adulteration has become a grave menace in India, exposing a deeply entrenched nexus between a powerful pharmaceutical lobby and unscrupulous doctors incentivised to promote specific brands. The recent deaths of at least 14 children in Madhya Pradesh and two in Rajasthan, reportedly from renal failure after consuming a particular brand of cough syrup, have once again cast a harsh spotlight on India's drug manufacturing practices. Despite being hailed as the 'pharmacy of the world', supplying 20% of global medicines and 60% of vaccines, India's pharmaceutical industry is increasingly tainted by scandals of quality compromise and negligence. Immediate, transparent scrutiny of every stage of drug production is imperative before another tragedy unfolds.

N Sadhasiva Reddy, Bengaluru

Basava Metro

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's proposal to rename Bengaluru's 'Namma Metro' as 'Basava Metro' in honour of the 12th-century saint and social reformer Basavanna is indeed commendable. This initiative is not merely a name change, but a tribute to one of Karnataka's greatest visionaries whose teachings continue to inspire millions. Basavanna's contributions to society were revolutionary. He founded the 'Anubhava Mantapa', often described as the world's first democratic parliament, which brought together thinkers from diverse backgrounds to discuss equality, spirituality, and human values. His philosophy of *Kaayakave Kailasa* (work is worship) and his *Vachanas* promoted ideals of dignity of labour, gender equality, and the eradication of caste-based discrimination. Renaming the metro after Basavanna would remind both domestic and international commuters of Karnataka's rich cultural and philosophical heritage. It would serve as a meaningful symbol of inclusivity and justice-- values deeply rooted in Basavanna's teachings. Rather than viewing it as a political or religious move, Bengaluru should embrace it as a recognition of Karnataka's literary and cultural identity.

Vishal Mayur, Tumakuru

Missing *ghuspaithiyas*

Refer to 'Course-corrected SIR holds invaluable lessons' (Oct 6), without the Supreme Court's intervention, the Opposition's campaign, and the media's on-the-ground reports, Bihar's final electoral rolls would have been different and less fair. The deletions effected have made it clear that there were not many suspected illegal immigrants who needed to be weeded out. Most of the 6.866 lakh deletions were due to death, duplication, and permanent migration. The *ghuspaithiya* charge framed by the BJP fell flat. The exercise also highlighted the EC's procedural shortcomings.

S S Paul, Nadia (WB)

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

SPEAK OUT

Some forces have tried to divide the society. They are doing the misadventure of trying to divide the Hindu society. Even earlier, such conspiracies and attempts had taken place but were not successful. They will not succeed in the future either.

B Y Vijayendra, BJP State President

The self-righteous scream judgements against others to hide the noise of skeletons dancing in their own closets.

John Mark Green

TO BE PRECISE

IN PERSPECTIVE

Fidelity is a two-party pact

The Delhi HC has revived an archaic tort that wrongly shifts responsibility for marital breakdowns onto third parties

SHAILEE BASU

On September 15, 2025, the Delhi High Court issued an order in *Shelly Mahajan v. Bhanushree Bahl & Anr.*, allowing a civil suit for damages based on "alienation of affection" (AoA) to proceed. The plaintiff alleged that the defendant, a third party, had developed an intimate relationship with her husband, frequently visiting their home, accompanying him on work trips, and exchanging intimate letters – all actions she claimed led to the breakdown of her marriage.

While noting that Indian statutes do not expressly recognise AoA, the court observed that Supreme Court dicta in *Pinakin Rawal* (2013) and *Indra Sarma* (2013) had acknowledged it in principle as an intentional tort: wrongful interference by a third party in a marital relationship, calculated to alienate one spouse's affection from the other. But it raises a deeper conceptual problem: should the obligations of fidelity that exist *between* spouses be extended outwards, as duties enforceable against third parties?

The order invokes Wesley Hohfeld's schema of rights and duties: if a spouse has a right to consortium, intimacy, and companionship, then a third party may have a correlative duty not to interfere. But in the same breath, the court concedes that where a spouse's conduct is entirely voluntary, uninduced, and uncoerced, third-party liability collapses. This is self-defeating. If liability is always defeated by the spouse's autonomy, then the Hohfeldian duty the Court claims to recognise is illusory.

Fidelity obligations are quintessentially *intra-spousal*. They arise only because of the voluntary commitment the spouses made to one another, codified in family law statutes. Outsiders never undertook these obligations. To extend a duty of fidelity to third parties is to transform marriage into an obligation enforceable against the world at large – an untenable proposition.

This is the nub of the conceptual critique: tort law should not project marital duties outward. Marriage is a personal covenant between two individuals, not a liability regime for everyone they interact with. The moment tort law imposes duties of fidelity on outsiders, it risks punishing colleagues, friends, or even casual acquaintances, whenever a marriage fails and blame is externalised.

Adults make their own choices

There is also the question of agency. When a marriage falters, it is because one spouse has chosen – rightly or wrongly – to withdraw their affection. To suggest that a third party "caused" that decision is to strip the erring spouse of agency, reducing them to a passive object led astray.

Tort law requires clear causation between wrongful conduct and injury. In the case of AoA, however, the decisive act is the spouse's voluntary shift of affection. No third party can compel love, loyalty, or companionship. A human being within a marriage is an autonomous agent; they are not stolen like property, nor alienated like a transferable asset.

None of this is to deny that civil remedies are available and necessary when marriages break down. Family law rightly allows spouses to seek divorce, maintenance, custody, and even damages in certain circumstances. These remedies recognise that marriage, though deeply personal, has legal consequences that deserve judicial protection.

The comparative experience bears this out. England abolished 'heart-balm' actions, including AoA, in the 19th century. Canada followed suit, and today, only a handful of states in the United States retain the action, where it is widely criticised as archaic and prone to vindictive misuse. These jurisdictions recognised that courts cannot and should not police the affections of adults or assign liability to third parties for consensual choices.

Recognising AoA as a tort also risks encouraging a culture of externalising responsibility. When marriages falter, there are usually multiple causes – incompatibility, conflict, drift, or simply the waning of affection. To single out a third party as the villain obscures the real, complex dynamics within the marriage.

The Delhi High Court has only ruled on maintainability and not the merits of the case; the trial will have to grapple with proof and damages. But even allowing the suit to proceed signals a troubling willingness to expand tort law into matters that are best confined to matrimonial remedies. Recognising AoA as a civil tort risks externalising responsibility for marital breakdown.

If fidelity is to be enforced, it must remain a mutual obligation within marriage, not a duty owed by the world. To hold otherwise is to mistake the private covenant of two individuals for a public claim against all others. In law as in life, marriage is between two. Tort law should not make it a crowd.

(The writer is a lawyer and a research fellow at the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy)

'Courts haven't banned ballot papers; 120 countries still use them'

At a time when opposition parties are voicing concerns about the use of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), the Karnataka government has decided to revert to ballot papers for local body elections. The move comes even as the Election Commission of India (ECI) is set to begin its Special Intensive Revision (SIR) to electoral rolls in the state, while the State Election Commission (SEC) carries out its own revision. The overlap of these two exercises has drawn national attention and raised questions about possible confusion. Karnataka's State Election Commissioner G S Sangreshi spoke about the return to ballot papers, preparations for the upcoming polls, and measures to ensure transparency. Excerpts.

G S Sangreshi, *Karnataka's State Election Commissioner, in conversation with* **Sujay B M**

THE DEEP TAKE

● What is the justification for reverting to ballot papers? How do you defend the decision?

The decision was taken by the state government. More importantly, the law itself allows voting to be conducted either through EVMs or ballot papers.

● When EVMs replaced ballot papers, they were considered more scientific. What are the new considerations behind reverting to ballot paper?

I don't know what the government's considerations are, but there is nothing wrong with using ballot papers. Their use is not banned, right? In fact, around 120 countries—including many advanced democracies—continue to use ballot papers. In recent years, there has been public anxiety about EVMs. That concern needs to be addressed. Though the Supreme Court of India ruled that EVMs cannot be hacked, that doesn't mean they must be used exclusively. We will provide police protection and compulsorily install CCTVs in all booths. This will bring down malpractice. CCTVs and police are two eyes of the election commission to hold the elections effectively and transparently. The process may be time-consuming, but it cannot be rejected for that reason alone.

● You had told reporters that rural voters, many of whom are not literate, will find ballot papers easier to use than EVMs.

I didn't say in that sense. That was misunderstood. When reporters asked whether voters used to EVMs for 25-30 years would find it difficult to switch to ballot papers, I clarified that rural people still use ballot papers in gram panchayat elections. Thus, it is not an issue at all. The sort of deep electoral experience that rural people have is not seen among people in urban places. Do we have to teach them about ballot papers? For the Hukkeri Cooperative Society elections, vice-presidential polls and all DCC Bank elections, they have used ballot papers. If that's not a problem there, why should it be one now?

Have you begun consultations about these issues with political parties? If yes, what has been the response?

● Earlier, a Bharatiya Janata Party delegation met us. Similarly, a Congress delegation from Kalaburagi also wrote to us with their points. I have seen some reactions in the media, but I am not fully aware of their exact positions.

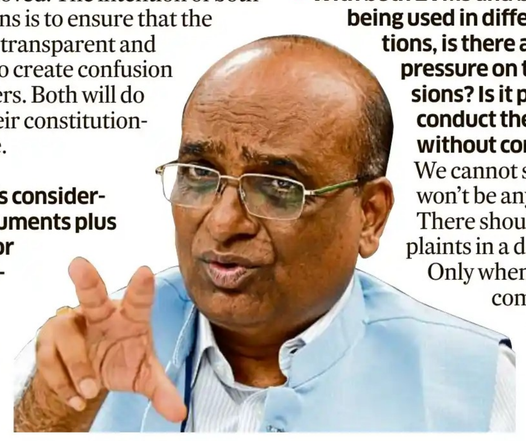
● How are preparations for the upcoming polls?

We have the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) polls first (the Supreme Court has mandated the SEC to start electoral roll revision in GBA limits from November 1 and report progress on November 3).

After that, we have gram panchayat, taluk panchayat, and zilla panchayat elections, as well as 188 local body elections. The year 2026 could become a year for local elections.

● Since both the ECI and SEC are conducting roll revisions, will the presence of two electoral rolls create confusion?

I have written to the ECI, though we haven't yet received a reply. But there won't be any confusion. They may do their revision first, and we will do ours later — or vice versa. If there's a time gap between the two exercises, new voters who have turned 18 will be added, and names of the deceased will be removed. The intention of both commissions is to ensure that the voter list is transparent and fair — not to create confusion for the voters. Both will do it as per their constitutional mandate.



● The ECI is considering 11 documents plus Aadhaar for voter identification. What will the SEC follow?

We will follow the same guidelines of the Supreme Court. We cannot do anything different.

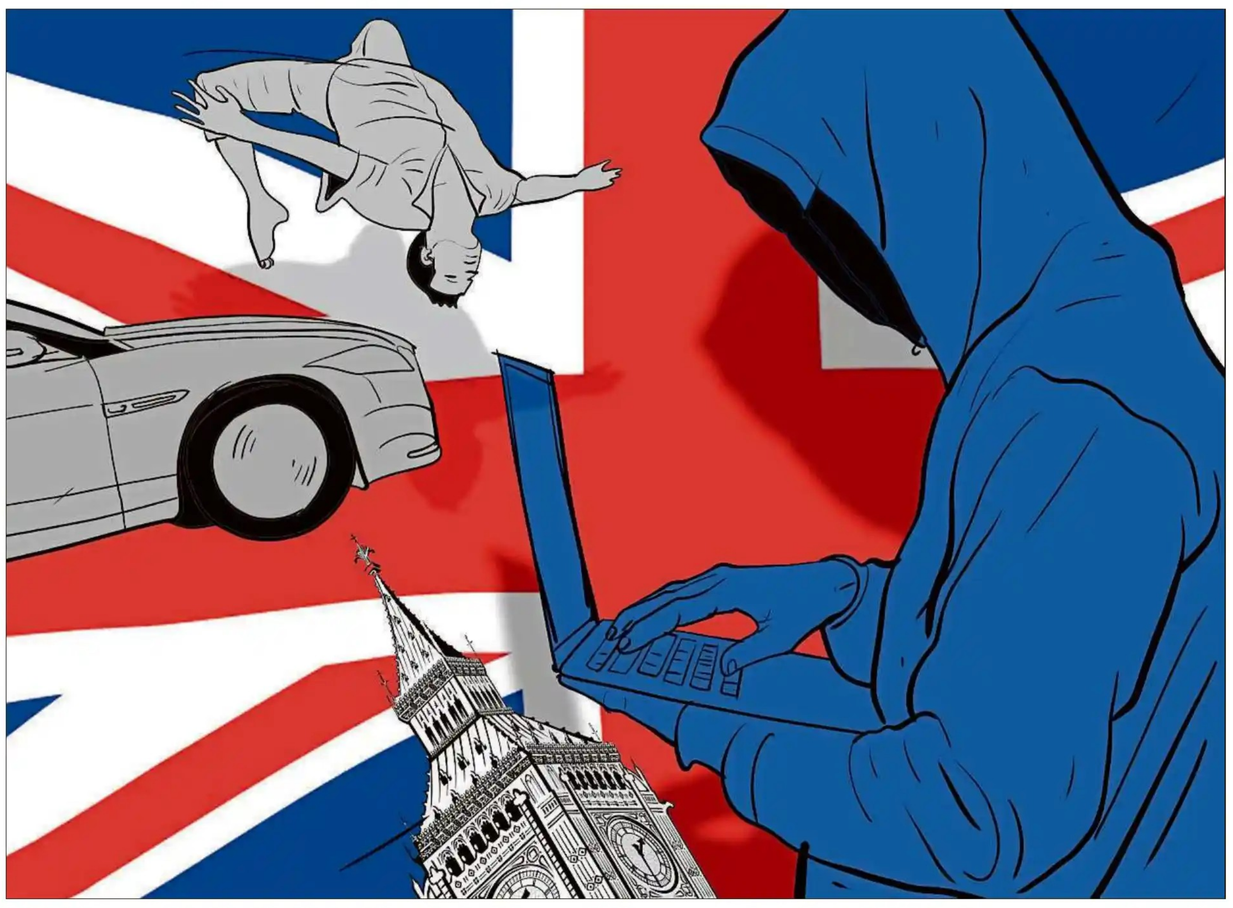
● The local body elections have been delayed. When will you hold them?

It is difficult to say because the reservation list is yet to come. The government must specify which seats are reserved for SCs, STs, OBCs, women, and so on. Once they specify the list, we will proceed with the elections.

● With both EVMs and ballot papers being used in different elections, is there any added pressure on the commissions? Is it possible to conduct the exercise without complaints?

We cannot say there won't be any complaints. There should be complaints in a democracy. Only when complaints come will we be able to identify illegal voters and improve the process.

Jaguar Land Rover is the third big British brand to have its operations severely affected by a breach this year



DH ILLUSTRATION: DEEPAK HARICHANDAN

From cars to groceries, cyberattacks upset British life

ESHE NELSON

For more than a month, Jaguar Land Rover hasn't built a single car. The company, Britain's largest automaker, shut down its systems Sept. 1 after discovering a cyberattack, halting production at its factories in England, as well as sites in Brazil, China, India and Slovakia.

The production halt has probably cost the company millions of pounds a day. Jaguar Land Rover has not confirmed the nature of the attack, though cybersecurity experts say it was most likely an extortion-based attack, in which hackers steal data or block systems until a ransom is paid.

For companies and governments worldwide, defending their digital operations is a constant challenge. Cyberattacks seem inevitable lately, and large-scale theft of customer data has begun to feel almost routine. Attacks that upend company operations are exposing troubling vulnerabilities.

Few places have felt this more sharply in recent months than Britain. Three of the country's biggest brands — retailer Marks & Spencer, supermarket chain Co-op, and Jaguar Land Rover — were all severely disrupted by cyberattacks this year, bringing pain to the lives of customers, workers, suppliers and government officials.

"It is happening elsewhere. It's just Britain is having a pretty bad run of it," said Ciaran Martin, the former CEO of the National Cyber Security Centre, part of the government's intelligence and security agency, and a professor at Oxford University.

What stands out is the scale of the disruption. Jaguar Land Rover, which is owned by the Indian conglomerate Tata Group, employs 34,000 people in Britain and supports another 120,000 British jobs through its supply chain. The automaker operates a just-in-time manufacturing process, so parts arrive when they are needed. When the company halted production, it also stopped payments to suppliers, some of which have since begun cutting staff hours or laying off workers.

"Our businesses are really struggling," said Corin Crane, CEO of the Chamber of Commerce in Coventry and Warwickshire, near Jaguar Land Rover's largest site. Together with other local chambers, it surveyed 84 businesses with nearly 30,000 workers. "All of them have been impacted," he said.

Those businesses were already contending with a shrinking auto industry in Britain and higher tariffs for vehicles sent to the United States, one of Jaguar Land Rover's most important markets. After the attack, the government provided the automaker with a guarantee on a $1.5 billion loan that it could use to support its suppliers.

The company is the "jewel in the crown of British manufacturing," Rachel Reeves, Britain's top finance official, said last week. But many suppliers are still worried about access to funds, Crane said.

Jaguar Land Rover said in a statement last week that it expected to restart manufacturing "in the coming days," adding that "the foundational work of our recovery is firmly underway."

In the spring, Marks & Spencer stopped online orders for nearly two months, food deliveries to stores were interrupted and staff resorted to manual processes. The retailer said the attack would cost it about 300 million pounds (about $400 million) this year, though insurance would cover some it.

Around the same time, an attack on Co-op led to a widespread shortage of goods, and the contact details of its 6.5 million members were stolen. The episode led to more than 200 million pounds in lost revenue, the firm said last week.

For some customers, the disruption was critical. The grocery store chain is the main food source for some islands in Scotland. "They were running out of food," said Jude McCorry, CEO of the Cyber and Fraud Centre in Scotland. "The shelves were empty."

In Britain, legislation requires businesses to protect customer data, but that does not go far enough, McCorry said. Businesses need to know if they can keep up their core purpose in the event of an attack.

"You should be testing cyber-resilience and your cyber incident response plan all the time," she said.

As is often the case with cyberattacks, the origins of the recent breaches in Britain are not publicly known. The hacking crew Scattered Spider and associated groups, which appear to be made up of young English speakers in Britain and the United States, have claimed responsibility.

In July, four people, ages 17 to 20, were arrested in Britain in connection with the attacks on Marks & Spencer and Co-op. None have been charged, and Britain's National Crime Agency has not provided updates on its investigation.

Experts say it is more common for cyberattacks on British companies and public agencies to come from Russia or neighbouring countries. "Scattered Spider is unusual in that it's home-grown," said Jen Ellis, a government adviser on cybersecurity, but she added that the group's connection to the attacks was unconfirmed.

Attacks like these are global. Asahi, the Japanese beer giant, stopped production after a cyberattack last week. In September, travellers at several European airports, including in Brussels and Berlin, faced delays after a ransomware attack disrupted check-in and boarding software.

When a breach occurs, hackers typically hold a company's data or operating systems for ransom. Britain is among the most-targeted countries for extortion-based attacks, Ellis said.

That's for several reasons. For one, hackers often live in so-called safe haven nations that view Western nations as adversarial, she said. Another reason is financial. "Cybercrime is predominately profit motivated," Ellis said, and Britain is a relatively wealthy country.

English-speaking nations are attractive for social engineering tactics, in which hackers trick workers into providing passwords or other credentials. The common language also makes it easier to negotiate ransoms, said Jamie MacColl, a research fellow at the Royal United Services Institute, a defence and security think tank.

Despite a decade of intense corporate awareness of the threat of cybercrime, the attacks on British companies this year have highlighted how ruinous these hacks can still be. Experts and government officials warn that businesses must improve their defences and response plans. They are even raising the alarm that such attacks could become a form of cyberwarfare.

The attacks show a "big strategic vulnerability," said Martin, the former British intelligence official. Criminals can halt operations for money, but coordinated attacks from state actors could cause social and economic disruption, he added. In such attacks, hackers may not "be looking for money," he said. "So you wouldn't be able to buy your way out." **NYT**

Dichotomy of fashion, thread by thread

RUNA RAY

'Dichotomy' literally means 'a cutting in two'. The word comes from the Greek *dikhotomía*— *dikha* (in two) and *tome* (to cut)—a tidy split we often use to frame messy human realities.

Fashion is full of such splits: glamour and grief, beauty and burden. Yet the same industry also binds communities together through skill, pride, and livelihood.

India's textile story shows this unity across millennia. Archaeology from the Indus Valley has yielded fragments of cotton cloth at Mohenjo-daro—among the earliest evidence of a fibre and craft for which India became renowned. The world's oldest cotton fibres, found at Mehrgarh and Mohenjo-daro, push India's textile legacy deep into prehistory.

From there, cloth travelled along coasts and caravan routes. Surat rose as a Mughal emporium; Masulipatnam thrived on printed cottons like chintz—so prized in Europe that imports were once banned to protect local mills. Bengal's ethereal muslins became courtly symbols, celebrated and coveted worldwide. Together, muslin and chintz powered an export engine that stitched India into global trade. From north to south, these were ecosystems of growers, dyers, weavers, and tailors—hands that turned fibre into fabric and fabric into identity.

Gandhi understood the political and moral force of these hands. Through *swadeshi* and the *charkha*, he made spinning and wearing khadi both resistance and repair: a way to reduce colonial dependence, create dignified rural work, and return the means of production to ordinary people. The spinning wheel became a symbol not of nostalgia, but of self-reliance and solidarity.

This lineage is not abstract to me—it was stitched into my childhood. My father's suits were tailored by a Muslim family down the street, the fabric always bought from Bengaluru's Avenue Road. My mother would choose blouse fabric from Jayanagar and take it to a rural tailor she trusted implicitly. Later, when I had my own atelier in Indiranagar, that same pattern continued—Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Jain, Sikh, and Parsi artisans working side by side, each bringing their craft to the table. From measuring and cutting to basting, tailoring and finishing, it was a medley of skills and accents moving in harmony.

What seemed ordinary at the time was, in truth, extraordinary: the quiet collaboration of many hands and many faiths creating one garment—and in doing so, helping you feel like the best version of yourself.

We seldom pause to consider who actually makes the garments we wear. Not just the workers in a factory, but the whole mosaic of human effort: cotton picked in Vidarbha, threads dyed in Sircilla, silk reeled in Kanchipuram, fabric pressed in Banaras, and stitched by a tailor in Bengaluru. Hands from different castes, faiths, and communities

And here lies the irony. A politician may step onto a stage in a freshly pressed *kurta*, seeking to divide his audience along social, religious, or regional lines. But the garment itself embodies unity—woven, dyed, and sewn by the very communities he seeks to separate.

This is the unspoken truth of fashion: we embrace the product but erase the producer. We celebrate the look but deny the labour. We flaunt the garment while turning away from the people whose sweat, patience, and artistry brought it into being. It is a paradox as sharp as any the Greeks imagined—love for the cloth, indifference for the maker.

And yet within that contradiction lies an invitation. What if every outfit reminded us of the shared humanity stitched into it? What if the simple act of wearing became an act of recognition—that even when prejudice blinds us, our clothes betray us, revealing our hidden dependence on those who made them?

Dichotomy tempts us to split the world into halves: artisan or industry, tradition or technology, north or south, cost or craft. But textiles whisper another lesson. Warp and weft only make sense when they cross; together they create strength, pattern, and beauty. India's textile story—from Indus Valley cotton to our everyday muslin, brocades and even Tirupur knits—shows that refusing to choose a single thread is our greatest inheritance.

In the quiet labour behind every shirt or sari lies a truth we ignore: that humanity is woven together, whether or not we choose to see it – many communities, many histories, many futures, all interlaced. The real story isn't a dichotomy at all. It is a braid—of labour and love, memory and innovation—binding us to one another every time we button a shirt, drape a sari, or lift a veil.

(The writer is a fashion environmentalist collaborating with the United Nations and World Bank on fashion and sustainability)

OUR PAGES OF HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO: OCTOBER 1975

Maharashtra and Andhra sign Godavari accord

Hyderabad, October 6
The Chief Ministers of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh signed here today an agreement on the clearance of projects and use of waters of the Godavari and its tributaries. The agreement was signed by AP Chief Minister J. Vengal Rao and Maharashtra Chief Minister S. B. Chavan. Mr. Rao said he was happy that this "long-standing dispute had been resolved in a friendly atmosphere." This showed, said Mr. Chavan, that given understanding and goodwill anything could be achieved.

25 YEARS AGO: OCTOBER 2000

Mamata, Panja withdraw resignations

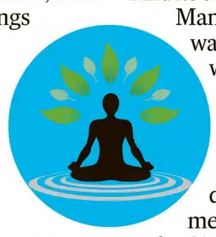
Calcutta, Oct 6 (PTI)
Railway Minister Mamata Banerjee and Minister of State for External Affairs Ajit Panja today announced withdrawal of their resignations from the Vajpayee government following an assurance from the prime minister to reconsider the recent hike in prices of petro- products. "Hence I'm resuming my duties as railway minister from today," Ms Banerjee told a crowded press conference here. She said the prime minister has given her a written assurance to "relook and take appropriate action".

OASIS | MIRLE KARTHIK

Learning to practise what we learn

Commencing its seventh chapter, the Bhagavad Gita touches upon an undeniable fact - most people simply do not have any desire to attain spiritual knowledge or enlightenment. One obvious reason that immediately crops up is – who has the time or the energy to undertake such pursuits, when the world demands so much from them just to keep themselves afloat, amidst the innumerable pulls and pressures of mundane existence? True. And rightly so, too.

The Gita takes this forward while saying that among countless human beings in this world, only a few have the desire to attain spiritual knowledge, to elevate themselves spiritually which will, in turn, make their worldly life all the more richer, as reflected in their emotional maturity and stability, their ability to take balanced decisions, their capacity to withstand the slings and arrows that life shoots at them and so on. Among these few who have some spiritual inclinations, only some of them really strive to actually practice the knowledge that they gain from learning from a preceptor or from reading texts or listening to the words of learned masters. Many people do attempt to peruse books on such subjects. They attend lectures of erudite speakers.



But how many among them even try to actually put into practice what they hear or read? Very few, says the Gita. And its our own experience too.

Many of us, with all sincerity, do want to implement whatever we are able to glean from our efforts. But, alas, the moment we close the book or come out of the lecture hall, the world overpowers us with its demands on our physical and mental energies. This is where the Gita steps in, saying that it can provide the knowledge, the means to transcend this dilemma, while carrying out worldly duties. This knowledge of understanding our limitations, our all too human frailties is called *Gnana*. Putting into practice this knowledge, its practical application is called *Vijnana*.

How to do this, what are the prerequisites to embark on this process is what the Gita explains in this seventh chapter, aptly called Gnana-Vijnana Yoga. Further, as aforementioned, only very few people attempt to practice what they have learnt.

Finally, even among this group, only one or two actually attain true spiritual enlightenment. They are the Supreme, blessed beings, who have attained the true goal of human birth, worthy of emulation by all lesser mortals!

ELECTORAL ROLL CALL: Poll body says it is maintained in a decentralised way

EC dodges queries on 'illegal migrants' in Bihar SIR

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar on Monday did not provide the number of illegal migrants whose names were deleted from Bihar's electoral rolls prepared after the Special Intensive Revision (SIR), saying it was maintained in a decentralised way and available at the Assembly, district, and state levels.

At a press conference to announce the Bihar Assembly poll schedule, three journalists sought the statistics, but Kumar did not directly respond to them.

Even at an August 17 press conference, Kumar did not provide the number of foreigners or illegal immigrants whose names were found in Bihar's voters' list, but said those identified as foreigners during the SIR would be probed by September 30.

Quoting EC sources, *DH* and other media organisations on July 13 reported that Booth Level Officers (BLOs) had found a large number of people from Nepal, Bangladesh, and Myanmar in the electoral rolls of Bihar during the SIR, and they stand to be omitted from the final rolls after an inquiry.

To repeated questions during the press conference on the number of voters who were omitted from the final voter list owing to their inability to prove their Indian citizenship, Kumar said all voters in Bihar had fully participated in the EC's efforts to "purify" the electoral rolls. Those who had complaints were allowed to appeal to district magistrates and the chief electoral officer, he said.

During the process, he said names of 65 lakh voters were deleted at the draft stage and another 3.66 lakh while preparing the final list. The main reasons for deletions were death, entries in more than one polling station, permanently shifting from the locality, and inability to provide proof for Indian citizenship, he said.

Kumar went on to say that electoral rolls are prepared in a decentralised way, with the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) tasked with the assignment at the Assembly level. Aggrieved people can approach district magistrates and the CEO, and the statistics are available with EROs, district electoral officers, and the CEO, he said.

When pointed out that the EC had provided detailed statistics of voters who could not be included due to deaths, permanent migration, and duplicate voters, as well as its defence of the right to verify eligibility criteria, including citizenship, he said names were deleted due to their ineligibility and the electoral process is done in a decentralised way. "We have given you the total figures," he said.

The EC had, in a press note on July 27, two days after the first phase of SIR ended, said that enumeration forms were collected from 7.24 crore of 7.89 crore voters, who were enrolled at that time. It had then said that they have found around 22 lakh dead, 36 lakh who have permanently shifted, and seven lakh who are enrolled in multiple places in the electoral rolls and were ineligible to be added.

While announcing the SIR, the EC had said in a statement on June 24 that various reasons, such as "rapid urbanisation, frequent migration, young citizens becoming eligible to vote, non-reporting of deaths, and inclusion of names of foreign illegal immigrants", have necessitated the conduct of an intensive revision to ensure the integrity and preparation of error-free electoral rolls.

PAWAN KHERA
Congress leader

"We don't get answers to our questions. The Election Commission is being questioned on a daily basis. They created a political environment that there are illegal migrants, where are the illegal migrants? They did not answer.

M A BABY
CPM general secretary

The Election Commission is holding the Bihar Assembly election without properly finding remedial measures for the complaints of omission and commission committed by it with regard to rightful voters.

Anganwadi workers to verify identity of women in veils, burqas

NEW DELHI, DHNS: 'Anganwadi sevikas' will be deployed at every polling station in Bihar during the Assembly election to help verify the identity of women voters who arrive wearing a 'ghoongat' (veil) or burqa.

Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar said that 90,712 anganwadi workers will be stationed across an equal number of polling booths and will conduct identity checks when required.

Kumar was responding to a query on how the Election Commission plans to identify women voters wearing veils or burqas, a subject that has sparked controversy earlier, with political activists citing difficulty in verifying such voters.

Kumar said that clear instructions have been laid out for verifying the identity of such voters.

Among the new initiatives, he said that VVPAT slip counting will be mandatory in all cases of mismatches between Form 17C and EVM data, as well as wherever mock poll data has not been erased.

Another measure introduced by the Election Commission is a voter outreach feature via ECINet, an official app, allowing citizens to book calls with their Booth Level Officers.

For the first time, Kumar said, there will be one General Observer for each constituency, along with 38 Police Observers and 67 Expenditure Observers.

2005 to 2020: Bihar's poll story in numbers

2005 (Feb)	C	W	S
JD(U)	138	55	14.55%
BJP	103	37	10.97%
RJD	**215**	**75**	**25.07%**
Cong	84	10	5%
CPI(ML)L	**109**	**7**	**2.49%**

2005 (Oct)			
JD(U)	**139**	**88**	**20.46%**
BJP	102	55	15.65%
RJD	**175**	**54**	**23.45%**
Cong	51	9	6.09%
CPI(ML)L	**85**	**5**	**2.37%**

2010			
JD(U)	**141**	**115**	**22.58%**
BJP	102	91	16.49%
RJD	**168**	**22**	**18.84%**
Cong	243	4	8.37%
CPI(ML)L	**104**	**0**	**1.79%**

2015*	C	W	S
JD(U)	**101**	**71**	**16.83%**
BJP	157	53	24.42%
RJD	**101**	**80**	**18.35%**
Cong	41	27	6.66%
CPI(ML)L	**98**	**3**	**1.54%**

* JD(U), RJD & Cong fought together

2020**			
JD(U)	**115**	**43**	**32.83%**
BJP	110	74	19.46%
RJD	**144**	**75**	**23.11%**
Cong	70	19	9.48%
CPI(ML)L	**19**	**12**	**3.16%**

** JD(U) and BJP fought together

Contested | Seats Won | Vote Share

'Mother of all polls': NDA, Oppn welcome schedule

ABHAY KUMAR
PATNA

Workers remove posters of political parties following the model code of conduct ahead of the Bihar Assembly elections, in Patna, on Monday. PTI

The ruling NDA and the Opposition Mahagathbandhan welcomed the Election Commission's decision to conduct the Bihar polls in two phases on November 6 and 11, well before the November 22 deadline when the current Assembly's term expires.

Counting will take place on November 14.

The BJP expressed confidence that the NDA would return to power despite the Opposition's protests over the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise and allegations of 'vote chori'.

It will be the "mother of all elections" and set a precedent for the country, said Deputy Chief Minister and senior BJP leader Vijay Kumar Sinha.

Welcoming the announcement of poll schedules, JD(U) working president Sanjay Kumar Jha said in a post on X, "Looking at the public sentiment, I am fully confident that after this election, the NDA government will be formed again with a thumping majority under the leadership of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar."

RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav, the Opposition's undeclared chief ministerial candidate, said, "The trumpet of change has sounded... now every Bihari must summon all their heart and energy to form a Grand Alliance government."

The RJD leader, who served as deputy chief minister in the previous Mahagathbandhan government, asserted that the state's youths will vote to end unemployment.

Kishor to contest

Jan Suraaj Party founder Prashant Kishor announced that he would contest the Bihar polls and the list of his party's candidates will be declared on October 9.

"The party will declare its list of candidates for the coming assembly polls on October 9 and it will be full of surprises. My name will also be there in the list," he said.

The former poll strategist, however, did not disclose the name of the constituency from where he will contest.

Asked about the winning possibility of Jan Suraaj Party, Kishor claimed that his party would get votes of 28% voters.

(With PTI inputs)

SC notice to Centre on Wangchuk's detention

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Monday issued notice to the Centre, Union Territory of Ladakh, Superintendent of Jodhpur Central jail on a plea of climate activist Sonam Wangchuk's wife Gitanjali Angmo against his detention under the National Security Act (NSA).

A bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and NV Anjaria sought a response from the authorities and fixed the matter for hearing on October 14.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Wangchuk's wife, told the bench that the grounds of detention have not been supplied to the family, and it should be served on her.

Sibal said that the plea is challenging the detention as illegal under Article 22 of the Constitution, as no grounds of arrest have been supplied. He said that without the grounds, the detention order cannot be challenged.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the government, said the ground of detention was served to detenue (Wangchuk) and there is no legal requirement for the grounds of detention to be communicated to the wife.

He, however, agreed to consider the feasibility of serving the copy of the grounds to his wife.

During the hearing, Sibal also asked for the interim relief, seeking medical support for Wangchuk. To this, Mehta said that when the activist was produced for medical examination, he stated that he was not on any medication.

SIT summons 9 NRIs in Zubeen death probe

GUWAHATI, DHNS: At least nine Assamese NRIs based in Singapore, who were with Zubeen Garg on September 19, have been summoned by the SIT for investigation into the circumstances leading to the iconic singer's death.

So far, only one has agreed to appear before the SIT, while most have cited various reasons for not being able to visit Assam and join the investigation, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma told reporters in Guwahati on Monday.

"One of them, Rup Kamal Kalita, will arrive in Guwahati tomorrow to appear before the SIT. I hope that all others will also come. Some are not willing to come here and join the investigation. Some are saying Singapore police are not allowing them to come, some say they will lose their jobs there if they come. But we have kept up the pressure on them. We need to get their statements to complete the investigation quickly," Sarma said.

The SIT had sent notices to the Singapore-based NRIs through diplomatic channels, asking them to appear on or before October 6.

Kerala HC orders SIT probe into Sabarimala gold loss

ARJUN RAGHUNATH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

The Kerala High Court on Monday ordered a detailed probe by a Special Investigation Team (SIT) led by Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order) H Venkatesh, following preliminary findings of alleged misappropriation in the gold-plating of the Sabarimala Ayyappa temple.

A division bench observed that the alleged conspiracy may not be limited to Bengaluru-based Unnikrishnan Potti, and could also involve officials of the Travancore Devaswom Board. The court directed the SIT to complete the investigation within a month and maintain confidentiality.

An email sent by Potti in 2019 to then Devaswom Board president Padmakumar has emerged as crucial evidence in the alleged malpractice. In the message, Potti said some gold-cladded platings remained with him following the gold work on the 'dwarapalaka' idols, and asked if he could use them for a girl's marriage. The HC cited this email as key evidence of misappropriation.

Earlier, the court had itself noted that the weight of the gold-plated panels on the idols had decreased by around 4.5 kg after the plating work sponsored by Potti in 2019.

Devaswom records show that the platings were listed as copper when handed over to Potti for gold-plating in 2019. This contradicts earlier records indicating that the idols had already been gold-plated in 1998, sponsored by industrialist Vijay Mallya.

Row rocks Assembly

Kerala Assembly proceedings were disrupted on Monday as the Opposition staged a protest over the issue.

MLAs stormed the well of the House, shouting slogans and accusing the government of "stealing Lord Ayyappa's gold", prompting Speaker AN Shamseer to adjourn the House.

Trade calculations being overturned by tariff volatility: Jaishankar

Flags concerns over 'erosion in sovereignty'

NEW DELHI, PTI

S Jaishankar

Trade calculations are being overturned by "tariff volatility" globally, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Monday, against the backdrop of economic disruptions triggered by Washington's policy on trade tariffs.

In an address at an event, Jaishankar delved into the "strategic consequences" of profound changes being witnessed in the geopolitical landscape, including the shifting of one-third of global manufacturing to a single geography, in an apparent reference to China.

"Consider the global landscape now and let us reflect on the intensity of the transformation and its implications. A third of global manufacturing has moved to a single geography, with attendant consequences for supply chains," he said.

"There is rising anti-globalisation sentiment in many societies. Trade calculations are being overturned by tariff volatility," he said, in an oblique reference to Washington's policy on tariffs.

Jaishankar was speaking at the first Aravali Summit hosted by Jawaharlal Nehru University's School of International Studies.

The external affairs minister's remarks on tariff volatility come amid a downturn in ties between New Delhi and Washington after US President Donald Trump doubled tariffs on Indian goods to a whopping 50%, including a 25% additional duty for India's purchase of Russian crude oil.

The external affairs minister also listed the application of sanctions, the "seizure" of assets and the advent of crypto as elements changing the face of global finance.

"Competition for rare earths and critical minerals has become visceral, even as technology controls have further tightened," he said.

"The quality of weaponry and the nature of war itself has been transformed, making it more stand-off, more impactful and definitely more risk-prone," he added.

Jaishankar also flagged concerns over "erosion in sovereignty" facilitated by what he called "tech penetration and manipulation".

"Global rules and regimes are being revisited and at times, even discarded. Cost is no longer the defining criterion for economic transactions; ownership and security are equally so," he said.

"End-to-end" risks are rising, beginning with the concentration of production, moving through limited supply chains and then to dependence on key markets. "A belief in balance of power is being replaced with actions based on margins of power," he said.

Sarma: Gogoi-Pak link report 'damning'

SUMIR KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI, DHNS

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Monday said the special investigation team (SIT) report on state Congress president Gaurav Gogoi's alleged Pakistan links was "very damaging and damning".

Sarma said the state Cabinet on Monday had a preliminary discussion on the report, which was submitted to the government on September 10. "We will release it later to journalists, including those from Delhi," he told reporters in Guwahati.

He added: "It is a very bad report and should be shared with a larger crowd. As he (Gogoi) is the deputy leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, people all over the country should know about the report. So, we will invite mediapersons from Delhi, too, so that they know his actual character."

Sarma's allegations — that Gogoi had visited Pakistan several times and that his wife, Elizabeth, a British national, had links with Pakistan — triggered a row in Assam politics.

Gogoi admitted that he visited Pakistan once after marriage in 2014, but rejected allegations about his and his wife's links with Pakistan. Sarma then set up an SIT in February, and its report was to be made public on September 10.

Sarma, however, did not release the report on September 10, saying it needed to be discussed in the Cabinet first. The atmosphere following iconic singer Zubeen Garg's sudden death on September 19 also delayed it.

On Monday, he said only a gist of the report would be released, keeping in mind its "sensitive contents". "There are many official secrets and statements of several people recorded in the report," he said.

REALITY BITES

Play on stray dog scare turns all too real

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

A street play highlighting the menace of stray dogs in Kerala's Kannur district took an unexpected turn when the solo performer was bitten by a canine mid-performance.

P Radhakrishnan was staging Pae Kalam (In the Time of Rabies) at Mayyil on Sunday evening when the incident occurred. Ironically, it was a recorded barking sound — used to enhance the realism of the play — that led to the real-life encounter. Triggered by the bark, a stray dog rushed onto the stage and bit Radhakrishnan. He managed to fend off the animal using a stick.

As he continued his performance, most spectators assumed the stray dog bite was part of the act. It was only after the play that he revealed it was a real incident. He was later taken to Pariyaram Medical College Hospital for treatment.

The 57-year-old had conceived the play in response to the rising number of stray dog attacks.

"Ironic, isn't it?" he said, after the video of the incident went viral on social media. It was his fifth solo performance on the stray dog menace.

"A solo play about stray dog attacks ended up giving me a real bite of reality. Definitely an experience I won't forget!" Radhakrishnan said.

Kerala has been grappling with the menace for some time, prompting public concern over the rising number of rabies cases in the state.

(With PTI inputs)

Floods and fury: BJP, TMC face off after mob attack

ANIRBAN BHAUMIK
KOLKATA, DHNS

The political slugfest over the landslides and floods in northern West Bengal escalated on Monday, with the Opposition BJP accusing the ruling Trinamool Congress of orchestrating a mob attack on two of its leaders during a visit to a disaster-hit area. The incident also triggered a war of words between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

BJP MP Khagen Murmu and MLA Shankar Ghosh were in Nagrakata, Jalpaiguri, to meet people displaced by the torrential rains that flooded several villages overnight on Saturday and Sunday.

"I wish the West Bengal Government and TMC were more focused on helping people rather than indulging in violence in such a challenging situation," Prime Minister Narendra Modi posted on X. "It highlights the insensitivity of the TMC as well as the absolutely pathetic law and order situation in the state," he said.

BJP MP Khagen Murmu, who was attacked during a visit to the flood-affected Nagrakata area in Jalpaiguri district on Monday. PTI

Mamata countered, alleging that Modi had blamed her government outright without a shred of verified evidence, legal inquiry or administrative report. "This is not just a political low; it is a breach of the constitutional ethos the prime minister has sworn to uphold. In any democracy, the law must take its own course, and only due process can determine culpability — not a tweet from a political pulpit."

The calamity claimed at least five lives, including a two-month-old who was swept away after falling from her mother's lap as floodwaters surged into the village.

When Murmu and Ghosh visited Nagrakata on Monday, irate villagers surrounded them, shouting abuses. Police personnel escorted the duo to their vehicle, but the crowd pelted stones, shattering the windshield. Murmu sustained a serious head injury.

MLA Ghosh linked the mob to Mamata, who retorted, "If you go to a flood-affected area with 30-40 vehicles, people will be hurt. They need food, clothes and shelter — not politics."

Navy commissions second anti-sub vessel INS Androth

S N V SUDHIR
HYDERABAD, DHNS

The Indian Navy commissioned INS Androth, the second Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC), on Monday in a ceremonial event held at the Naval Dockyard in Andhra Pradesh's Visakhapatnam.

INS Androth — whose induction follows those of the Arnala, Nistar, Udaygiri, Nilgiri into the Navy in recent months — is being touted as a symbol of a maritime "Aatmanirbhar Bharat", with over 80% indigenous content.

At 77 m in length and displacing about 1,500 tonnes, INS Androth is said to be specially designed to undertake anti-submarine operations in coastal and shallow waters.

The vessel, reportedly a state-of-the-art submarine hunter, is fitted with advanced weapons, sensors, and communication systems, enabling it to detect, track and neutralise sub-surface threats with precision. It is claimed to sustain prolonged operations in shallow waters.

Powered by three waterjet propulsion systems driven by marine diesel engines, INS Androth is said to be extremely agile and manoeuvrable.

Its capabilities extend to maritime surveillance, search and rescue, coastal defence missions, and low-intensity maritime operations (LIMO).

The ship has been named after Androth, the northernmost island of the Lakshadweep group, known for its historical and strategic importance in India's maritime domain.

The commissioning marks a major step towards bolstering the Navy's capability in Anti-Submarine Warfare and reaffirms India's commitment to regional peace, security, and maritime cooperation, Eastern Naval Command Commander-in-Chief Vice-Admiral Rajesh Pendharkar said.

State can't close markets without just cause: SC

'Can't exercise power in a way that violates constitutional guarantees'

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Monday said the state enjoyed the freedom to prescribe the conditions in a tender, yet it could not exercise the power in a manner which infringed upon constitutional guarantees, by closing the market to outsiders without a just cause.

A bench of Justices Sanjay Kumar and Alok Aradhe quashed a tender condition which prescribed that bidders must have supplied sports kits worth at least Rs six crore (cumulative) to Chhattisgarh government agencies in the last three financial years as violative of Articles 14 and 19(1)(g) of the Constitution.

The bench allowed an appeal filed by Vinisha Technologies Pvt Ltd against the high court's orders, rejecting the challenge to the condition in the tender notice issued on July 21, 2025.

The court held that the condition excluded the competent and experienced suppliers, who may have executed contracts of far greater magnitude in other states or for the central government departments, from participating in the tender and has the impact of promoting cartelisation.

The court pointed out that the doctrine of a level playing field required that all equally placed competitors must be given an equal opportunity to participate in trade and commerce.

"It is designed to prevent the state from skewing the market in favour of a few by erecting artificial barriers," the bench said.

The court stressed the right to life under Article 21 included 'opportunity' as well. The principle of non-discrimination is embodied in Article 14, which has to be read in conjunction with the rights conferred by other Articles, like Article 21.

The bench held that the condition in the tender notice was arbitrary, unreasonable, and discriminatory, which did not have any rational nexus to the objective of ensuring the effective supply of sports kits to children in the state.

The eligibility criteria should be framed in a manner which encourages wider participation and secures the best prize for the state, which in turn safeguards the public exchequer, it said.

The court held that the justification by the state that it was a Maoist-affected area and only those with past experience of supply in the state to government agencies can be relied upon was untenable for several reasons.

Firstly, the tender is not for security-sensitive equipment. Secondly, only some districts are affected by Maoist activities, and it is incorrect to treat the entire state as uniformly affected by Naxalites to exclude other eligible bidders.

PM, Opposition leaders unite in condemning attack on CJI

Praise Justice Gavai for his grace, call incident an assault on judiciary, law & Constitution

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and senior leaders, including Mallikarjun Kharge and Sonia Gandhi, on Monday condemned the attempt by a lawyer to throw a shoe at Chief Justice of India B R Gavai, saying there was no place for such reprehensible acts in our society.

A 71-year-old lawyer, Rakesh Kishore, tried to hurl a shoe at the CJI while a note, containing the slogan "India will not tolerate insults to Sanatan Dharma", was recovered.

Modi said he spoke to the CJI about the attack, which he said had "angered every Indian", and praised the calm he displayed in such a situation. It highlighted his commitment to the values of justice and strengthening the spirit of our Constitution, said the PM.

"There is no place for such reprehensible acts in our society. It is utterly condemnable," he said.

NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister

"The attack on him earlier today in the Supreme Court premises has angered every Indian. There is no place for such reprehensible acts in our society. It is utterly condemnable.

SONIA GANDHI
Congress leader

"No words are adequate to condemn the attack on the Honourable Chief Justice of India in the Supreme Court itself. It is an assault not just on him but on our Constitution as well.

Kharge said the attempt to attack the CJI was "unprecedented, shameful, and abhorrent", describing it as an "attack on the dignity of our judiciary and rule of law".

"When a sitting Chief Justice — who rose to the nation's highest judicial office through merit, integrity, and perseverance — is targeted in such a manner, it sends a deeply disturbing message. It reflects an attempt to intimidate and humiliate a man who has broken social barriers to uphold the Constitution," he said.

Sonia said the CJI had been very gracious, but the nation must stand in solidarity with him with a deep sense of anguish and outrage.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin said the attacker's motive showed how "deeply the oppressive and hierarchical mindset" still lingered in society. "We must nurture a culture that respects and protects our institutions," he said.

NCP(SP) chief Sharad Pawar said there is a growing tendency to undermine constitutional institutions, and the "poison being spread in our country now refuses to respect even the highest constitutional institutions".

CPM general secretary M A Baby said the incident exposed "how deeply the poison of casteism and communal hate spread by the Hindutva forces has seeped into society", emboldening attacks even on the CJI, a Dalit judge.

NHRC notices to 3 states over cough syrup deaths

NEW DELHI, PTI: The NHRC on Monday issued notices to Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh governments, directing them to probe allegations of children's deaths due to contaminated cough syrup and immediately ban the sale of spurious medicines.

It has also directed the Union health ministry, the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI), the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) and the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) to order an investigation into the supply of spurious drugs and instruct all regional labs in states to collect the samples of spurious drugs and submit test reports.

"The authority is also directed to order all the chief drugs controllers in the states concerned to process immediately the banning of the spurious drugs and submit reports," the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) said in a notice.

An elderly woman looks at a bottle of Coldrif cough syrup in Betul of Madhya Pradesh. PTI

Complaint received

The commission said it has received a complaint seeking urgent intervention in cases of the deaths of 12 children in Madhya Pradesh (Chhindwara and Vidisha districts) and some districts of Rajasthan, allegedly after consuming cough syrup.

Although initial tests by the Union health ministry reportedly did not find diethylene glycol or ethylene glycol, substances known to cause kidney toxicity, in the medicines, "the exact cause of death remains unclear with cases involving kidney failure and other complications", the NHRC said.

The bench of the NHRC, presided by Priyank Kanoongo, Member, has taken cognisance of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, in the matter.

The authorities have been directed to submit an action taken report within two weeks, the notice said.

Maha FDA flags batch

The Maharashtra government's Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has appealed to people to stop the sale and use of a particular batch of the cough syrup, reports DHNS from Mumbai.

The public has been urged to report its possession directly to the Maharashtra FDA through the toll-free number 1800222365, by email to jchq.fda-mah@nic.in, or phone: 9892832289.

No medicine to children below 12 without prescription: Kerala

ARJUN RAGHUNATH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

The Kerala health authorities have directed that paediatric medicine for children below the age of 12 in the state would be given only if a fresh prescription from a recognised doctor is presented.

In view of the death of children suspected to be due to the cough syrup Coldrif, the state health department has also decided to conduct a study on the use of medicine for coughing in children.

"Based on the study by a three-member expert panel, the state will bring out guidelines for the use of medicines for cough in children," said Health Minister Veena George after a high-level meeting with health officials.

She said that the drug control authority would put out a directive not to issue pediatric drugs without prescriptions. Old prescriptions would not be allowed.

The minister also added that awareness about the use of paediatric drugs will also be carried out.

Directions issued

"Directions have been issued to the Drugs Controller in this regard, and awareness efforts will also be strengthened. Since medicines for children are prescribed according to their body weight, a medicine given to one child must not be given to another. Doing so could cause more harm than benefit," she said.

So far, no issue pertaining to the use of cough syrups by children has been reported in Kerala.

The sale of Coldrif is already banned in the state.

The SR-13 batch of Coldrif, which was found to have triggered the concerns, was not found being sold in Kerala.

"It has been confirmed that the sale of these problematic batches has not taken place in Kerala. Coldrif medicines are sold in Kerala through eight distributors. Their supply and sale have now been stopped," the health minister said in a statement.

Kerala paint shop worker hits Rs 25-cr lottery jackpot

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS: After two days of suspense, the winner of the Kerala government Onam Bumper lottery, with a prize of Rs 25 crore, has finally been revealed.

Sarath S Nair, an Alappuzha native and employee at a paint shop in Nettoor, Kochi, claimed the bumper prize.

Though the results were announced on Saturday, Sarath chose to keep his win private until he personally submitted the winning ticket at the bank.

On Monday, Sarath went to the bank with his brother and handed over the lottery ticket.

"It was my first time buying a bumper ticket, though I have previously bought lotteries with smaller prizes," said Sarath, who will receive around Rs 15.75 crore after taxes and commission.

"I haven't decided how to use the money yet, but settling some liabilities will be my top priority," said Sarath added.

India, Qatar to soon finalise contours for trade pact talks

DOHA, PTI: India and Qatar will soon finalise the contours for negotiating a free trade agreement, and the pact is expected to be concluded by the middle or third quarter of next year, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Monday.

The minister is here for a two-day visit. He is leading a business delegation to increase trade and investments between the two countries.

"I would think that sometime by the middle of next year, or third quarter of next year, we will be able to finalise an FTA (free trade agreement), if not earlier," he told reporters here.

Qatar is an important trading partner of India in the Gulf Cooperation Council with bilateral trade of over $14.15 billion in 2024-25.

GCC members are Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). India already has a trade pact with the UAE.

Nobel Prize for medicine awarded to immune system researchers

Their works paved way for new treatments of autoimmune diseases

STOCKHOLM, AFP

A US-Japanese trio on Monday won the Nobel Prize in Medicine for research into how the immune system is kept in check by identifying its "security guards", the Nobel jury said.

The discoveries by Mary Brunkow and Fred Ramsdell of the US and Japan's Shimon Sakaguchi have been decisive for understanding how the immune system functions and why we do not all develop serious autoimmune diseases.

Sakaguchi, a professor at Osaka University, told a press conference in Japan he hoped the award would "serve as an opportunity for this field to develop further... in a direction where it can be applied in actual bedside and clinical settings". The three won the prize for research that identified the immune system's "security guards", called regulatory T-cells. Their work concerns "peripheral immune tolerance" that prevents the immune system from harming the body, and has led to a new field of research and the development of potential medical treatments now being evaluated in clinical trials. "The hope is to be able to treat or cure autoimmune diseases, provide more effective cancer treatments and prevent serious complications after stem cell transplants," the jury said.

Sakaguchi made the first key discovery in 1995. At the time, many researchers were convinced that immune tolerance only developed due to potentially harmful immune cells being eliminated in the thymus gland, through a process called "central tolerance".

Brunkow, born in 1961 and a senior project manager at the Institute for Systems Biology in Seattle, and Ramsdell, a 64-year-old senior advisor at Sonoma Biotherapeutics in San Francisco, made the other key discovery in 2001.

They were able to explain why certain mice were particularly vulnerable to autoimmune diseases. "They had discovered that mice have a mutation in a gene that they named Foxp3," the jury said.

The trio will receive their prize — a diploma, a gold medal and $1.2 million split three ways — at a ceremony in Stockholm on December 10.

US President Donald Trump is among the top contenders for the Nobel Peace Prize, to be announced on Friday. Other contenders include the Emergency Response Rooms, the Committee to Protect Journalists, Reporters Without Borders and Yulia Navalnaya.

Nobel Committee Secretary General Thomas Perlmann (right) addresses journalists in front of a screen displaying the portraits of Mary E Brunkow, Fred Ramsdell and Shimon Sakaguchi at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden, on Monday. AFP

WORLD AT A GLANCE

Swedish activist Greta Thunberg, who was detained for being part of the Global Sumud Flotilla to deliver aid to Gaza, delivers a statement at the Athens Airport in Greece on Monday. She was deported by Israel along with other activists. REUTERS

Author of bestselling risque novels Jilly Cooper dies at 88

Jilly Cooper, the bestselling British author known for her chronicles of class and sex in risque novels, including "Rivals" and "Riders," has died at the age of 88, AP/PTI reports from London.

Jilly Cooper

The author died on Sunday after a fall, said a statement from literary agency Curtis Brown, which represented her.

"Mum was the shining light in all of our lives," her children, Felix and Emily, wrote. "Her unexpected death has come as a complete shock." Queen Camilla, the wife of King Charles III, called Cooper "a legend" and recalled seeing the author recently at a book festival.

"I join my husband, the King, in sending our thoughts and sympathies to all her family. And may her hereafter be filled with impossibly handsome men and devoted dogs," Camilla wrote. Cooper was best known for "The Rutshire Chronicles" series of novels, beginning with "Riders" in 1985, which portrayed the sex lives and excesses of the well-off, horse-riding upper and middle classes in 1980s England.

4 Indians killed in Italy accident

Four Indian nationals were killed in a road accident in southern Italy's Matera city, according to the Indian Embassy in Rome, PTI reports from London.

The victims were in a seven-seater Renault Scenic with six other people, which collided with a truck in the municipality of Scanzano Jonico in Matera city on the Agri Valley on Saturday, Italian news agency ANSA reported on Sunday.

It identified the victims as Kumar Manoj, 34, Singh Surjit, 33, Singh Harwinder, 31, and Singh Jaskaran, 20.

Gone in 27 days: French PM resigns

President Macron under pressure as approval rate drops

PARIS, AP/PTI

France's new prime minister, Sebastien Lecornu, resigned less than 24 hours after naming his government and after less than a month in office, plunging the country into a deep political crisis and leaving French President Emmanuel Macron with few options.

The French presidency said in a statement on Monday that Macron, who has been hitting record lows in opinion polls, has accepted his resignation.

Lecornu had replaced his predecessor, Francois Bayrou, in September to become France's fourth prime minister in barely a year during a prolonged period of political instability.

French politics have been in disarray since Macron called snap elections last year that produced a deeply fragmented legislature and a political impasse. Far-right and left-wing lawmakers hold over 320 seats at the National Assembly, while the centrists and allied conservatives hold 210, with no party having an overall majority.

A faithful ally of Macron, Lecornu said conditions were no longer met to remain in office after failing to build a consensus. "It would take little for it to work," Lecornu said in his resignation speech. "By being more selfless for many, by knowing how to show humility. One must always put one's country before one's party."

With less than two years before the next presidential election, Macron's opponents immediately tried to capitalise on the shocking resignation, with the far-right National Rally calling on him to either call for new snap parliamentary elections or resign.

"This raises a question for the President of the Republic: can he continue to resist the dissolution? We have reached the end of the road," far-right leader Marine Le Pen said.

Asim Malik to continue as ISI chief: Report

ISLAMABAD, PTI: Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) Director General Lt Gen Asim Malik will continue to serve in his position as the chief of the powerful spy agency, a media report said on Monday.

"Lt Gen Asim Malik is continuing his services in his present appointment," The Express Tribune newspaper reported, citing security sources.

Lt Gen Malik, who also serves as the national security advisor (NSA), was due to retire later this year, it said. However, the paper did not give the exact date of his retirement. It also did not specify if his army service would be extended, which the government can do, or if he would continue in the present role after formal retirement.

He was appointed head of the ISI in September 2024, replacing Lt Gen Nadeem Anjum. The ISI is Pakistan's powerful spy agency. In 1950, it was officially given the task of safeguarding Pakistani interests and national security, inside and outside the country.

J&K records lowest FDI despite investment push

Poor response attributed to several factors, including security concerns

ZULFIKAR MAJID
SRINAGAR, DHNS

The ambitious policy launched by the government in 2022 to attract foreign investment to Jammu and Kashmir has failed to deliver substantial results, with the Union Territory recording the lowest foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows in the country over the past five years, according to official data.

Despite the Centre's strong push to project J&K as a new economic frontier after the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019, foreign investors have largely stayed away. According to data tabled in the Rajya Sabha earlier this year, Jammu and Kashmir attracted a meagre Rs 10.52 crore in FDI equity inflows since 2020 — the lowest among all states and Union Territories.

In comparison, India's cumulative FDI equity inflow during the same period stood at Rs 21.62 lakh crore, underscoring the near absence of foreign investor interest in the region.

Year-wise figures paint a bleak picture: Rs 1.67 crore in 2020–21, Rs 1.23 crore in 2021–22, Rs 6.03 crore in 2022–23, a token Rs 0.02 crore in 2023–24, and Rs 1.57 crore in the first half of 2024–25.

By contrast, Maharashtra led the country with over Rs 5.54 lakh crore in cumulative FDI inflows, followed by Karnataka (Rs 3.88 lakh crore), Gujarat (Rs 2.28 lakh crore), Delhi (Rs 2.02 lakh crore), and Tamil Nadu (Rs 1.18 lakh crore). Even smaller Union Territories such as Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu recorded higher inflows than Jammu and Kashmir.

Lofty promises, little progress

The dismal figures sharply contrast the government's upbeat narrative post-2019, when it positioned Jammu and Kashmir as a major investment destination following the revocation of its special status. The government had pledged to transform the conflict-ridden region into an "industrial and tourism hub" through policy reforms, global investor summits, and new land-use regulations.

In January 2022, the J&K administration unveiled an Industrial Policy aimed at attracting Rs 70,000 crore in investment and creating five lakh jobs. Officials held roadshows in Dubai, Singapore, and several Indian cities to court investors, while a major "Global Investors Summit" was announced to showcase opportunities in tourism, horticulture, IT, renewable energy, and handicrafts.

However, three years later, little has materialised on the ground.

Security hurdles

Officials and analysts attribute the poor response to several factors — persistent security concerns, bureaucratic red tape, weak connectivity, and the absence of a large local market.

SC nixes Congress MLA's plea against Kerala CM, daughter

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Monday declined to entertain a plea by Congress MLA Mathew Kuzhalnadan seeking a probe against Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and his daughter Veena in connection with alleged financial dealings involving the Cochin Minerals and Rutile Limited (CMRL).

As soon as the matter came up, a bench consisting of Chief Justice of India B R Gavai and Justice K Vinod Chandran said the court was not inclined to admit the plea.

"We have been consistently saying that you fight your political battles before the electorate and not in the court," said the bench. On March 28, the Kerala High Court dismissed Kuzhalnadan's plea seeking a probe against the CM over the alleged financial transactions between his daughter's now-defunct IT firm and the CMRL, a private mining company.

The petitioner's counsel contended that the HC, at some stage, found that there was something to be looked at. However, the bench did not agree with this contention and said that the HC did not say so.

The counsel contended that it is a fact that there was a contract between CMRL and Exalogic, and Rs 1.72 crore was paid to the latter.

8 killed in Jaipur hospital fire

RAKHEE ROYTALUKDAR
JAIPUR

At least eight patients were killed as a fire raged at the Trauma Centre in the state's biggest government-run Sawai Man Singh Hospital in Jaipur late on Sunday night.

The blaze started around 11:20 pm on Sunday night in a storeroom, spread to the Neuro ICU ward of the Trauma Centre. Initial reports suggest a short circuit as the cause of fire. The storeroom contained paper, ICU equipment and blood samples. Thick smoke spread rapidly, sparking panic and fear amongst the patients. At least 11 patients were being treated at Neuro ICU when the fire erupted in the storage area, according to trauma centre incharge Dr Anurag Dhakad. Another 13 patients were in the next ICU.

The deceased were identified as Pintu from Sikar, Dilip and Bahadur from Jaipur, Srinath and Kushma from Bharatpur, Digambar Verma from Sawai Madhopur and Sarvesh from Agra. Three of the patients Sarvesh, Rukmini and Kushma were females.

Eyewitnesses say smoke started emanating at least 20 minutes before the fire actually began and hospital staff were told about it.

Sheru from Bharatpur says the smoke thickened around 11.20 pm and plastic tubes started melting. But the ward boys started fleeing from the place. Sheru said that the families themselves shifted their patients out of the wards before the fire spread rapidly.

Families of patients have alleged negligence by hospital staff and that they were left to fend for their family members as hospital staff fled from the scene as the fire broke out. They have also accused the hospital staff from withholding the information about the condition of the patients.

While Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma visited the site to assess the situation, there have been sloganeering against the state health minister Gajendra Singh Khimsar and demand for thorough investigations.

Families, however, say they do not trust that anything will come out of the probe or that anybody will ever be held accountable.

Tamil Nadu's second mahout village opens in Anamalai Tiger Reserve

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

Elephant Whisperers (mahouts) in Tamil Nadu now have a second village dedicated to them after Theppakadu in Mudumalai Tiger Reserve in the picturesque Nilgiris district. On Monday, Chief Minister M K Stalin inaugurated the mahout village at Kozhikamuthi in the Anamalai Tiger Reserve in Coimbatore.

Built at Rs 5.4 crore, the mahout village has 47 homes specially designed for mahouts and kavadis from the tribal community, who have cared for generations of elephants.

"From layout to cultural design, their inputs have been incorporated. Kozhikamuthi Mahout Village is a tribute to the unbreakable bond between elephants and their keepers," Supriya Sahu, Additional Chief Secretary (Environment and Forests), said.

The plight of mahouts and caretakers of elephants at camps was vividly captured in *The Elephant Whisperers*, the Oscar-winning documentary, in 2023. Belli and Bomman had requested houses for mahouts and caretakers like them in March 2023 when Stalin welcomed them at the secretariat after the documentary won Oscars.

The first 'mahout village', a first in the country, with 44 houses dedicated to mahouts and kavadi who take care of elephants, was inaugurated in the Nilgiris on May 13.

The elephant camp, too, has undergone a makeover at Rs 5 crore, providing better facilities. Powered by a first-of-its-kind microgrid by solar plus lithium battery energy storage system, this village stands as a model of sustainability, Sahu said.

The system combines a 124 kWp solar plant, 516 kWh battery bank, and a 100 kW inverter, ensuring round-the-clock reliable electricity. With two days of autonomy even in low-light or rainy conditions, the system provides uninterrupted green power to the camp and 47 mahout households.

MISCELLANY

◆ COMICS ◆

Blondie

Hagar The Horrible

HAGAR LIKES TO GET HIS CHORES OUT OF THE WAY QUICKLY SO HE CAN SPEND MORE TIME ON HIS HOBBY!
WHAT'S HIS HOBBY?
GRUMBLE SNORT
COMPLAINING ABOUT CHORES!

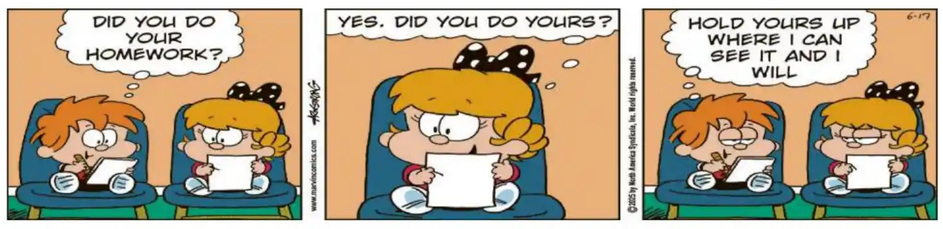
Beetle Bailey

I CAN'T FIND MY PHONE
RETRACE YOUR STEPS FROM TODAY
LET'S SEE...THE DUMPSTER BEHIND THE MESS HALL, THE REC ROOM COUCH, THE CLOSET IN THE OFFICE, THE OAK TREE...
SO, ALL THE PLACES YOU HID AND GOOFED OFF
GREG + MORT WALKER

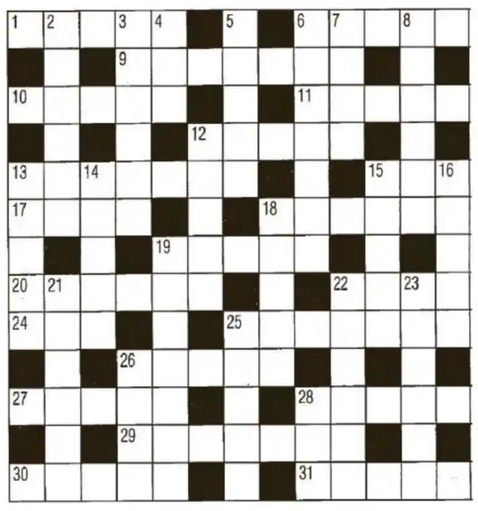
Peanuts

HEY, OTHER FOOT, HAVE YOU NOTICED SOMETHING?
LIKE WHAT?
THAT UMBRELLA...IT KEEPS THE RAIN OFF THE HEAD AND THE BODY, BUT NOT US FEET
YOU'RE RIGHT
I NOTICE THINGS LIKE THAT

Marvin



CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 12261



CRYPTIC

ACROSS
1 It might liken vanity to insanity (5)
6 Belief in a girl (5)
9 The advent of sound competition (7)
10 Used bad language possibly worse (5)
11 College girl (5)
12 Can such women never be dogged? (5)
13 If lit up, can appear deplorable (7)
15 Ready to turn the tap (3)
17 Major shareholder? (4)
18 Roy, going round with Jack (6)
19 Simple saint? (5)
20 Occupant getting in with a partner (6)
22 Punishing weather? (4)
24 In any style, a refusal (3)
25 Looked again at the girl in the matted reeds (7)
26 It goes at its own pace (5)
27 Hit 150 before being dismissed (5)
28 A clean one's still pretty black (5)
29 Much admired though always in the red (7)
30 Furthermore, dead wrong about the end of the world (5)
31 When female, is white (5)

DOWN
2 Where aloha means love (6)
3 He's got his wings (6)
4 Sooner than finish nowhere (3)
5 Opposition from 9 Across (5)
6 Fatheaded strike by a minority group (7)
7 A telly part for a mate (4)
8 Sailors' sort of sauce (6)
12 Rudely ignored, that is, by an attractive girl (5)
13 "That's flat!" is such speaking (5)
14 Soldier boy (5)
15 Where to arrange airs for piano (5)
16 Written stylishly, with character? (5)
18 Is down at heel, possibly lower (5)
19 Astonish a fellow, being so underdeveloped (7)
21 Caught in a misguided denial (6)
22 Country areas where there's opposition to bats (6)
23 Something that stings in bed (6)
25 Rural ones have been booked (5)
26 Bound to get a half share of the treasure (4)
28 It has its holidaymaking side (3)

ACROSS
1 Accumulate (5)
6 Gemstone (5)
9 Drinking vessel (7)
10 Consume completely (3,2)
11 Decree (5)
12 Book of maps (5)
13 Self-violence (7)
15 In addition to (3)
17 Office note (4)
18 Splinter (6)
19 Censure, informally (5)
20 Tell or narrate (6)
22 Big cat (4)
24 Scottish river (3)
25 Remainder (7)
26 Tree (5)
27 Bend forwards (5)
28 Condition (5)
29 Booze (7)
30 Violent person (5)
31 Forms a curve (5)

DOWN
2 Muslim place of worship (6)
3 Decorative plaster (6)
4 Weaken (3)
5 Large ray (5)
6 Golden syrup (7)
7 Betting chances (4)
8 Secret, mysterious (6)
12 Confuse (5)
13 Fashionable (5)
14 Suggest (5)
15 Stay clear of (5)
16 Male bee (5)
18 Guide (5)
19 Spire (7)
21 Religious festival (6)
22 Small (6)
23 Expelled (6)
25 Synthetic fibre (5)
26 Layer of paint (4)
28 Weep (3)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12260

CRYPTIC
ACROSS: 3, Heav-y 8, Baste 10, Apri-L 11, Lie 12, Chair 13, Parapet 15, N-evil 18, Ma-N 19, Alsace 21, Century 22, Hair 23, Rear 24, Sutures 26, Soccer 29, Sam 31, Ether 32, Reports 34, Lived 35, VAT 36, Della 37, Rem-it 38, Older.
DOWN: 1, Sal-ad 2, St-E-amer 4, Echt 5, Vainl-y 6, Ypres 7, Mi- mi-c 9, Si-R 12, Centaur 14, Pan 16, Vases 17, L-earn 19, Aro-use- d 20, Phase 21, C-inch 23, Removed 24, Serial 25, Rap 27, Ot-her 28, Cello 30, A-TT-ic 32, RE-ME 33, Ram.

EASY
ACROSS: 3, Ideas 8,Total 10, River 11, For 12,Train 13, Haricot 15, Senor 18, Now 19, Beware 21, Pebbles 22, Emir 23, Cede 24, Lateral 26, Ocelot 29, Fir 31, Music 32, Hideous 34, Carat 35, Fad 36, Visit 37,Turin 38,Terse.
DOWN: 1, So far 2, Mariner 4, Dart 5, Arises 6, Sinew 7,Tenor 9, Tor 12,Towboat 14, Cob 16, Navel 17, Rebel 19, Benefit 20, Venom 21, Piles 23, Careful 24, Locate 25, Rid 27, Cumin 28, Licit 30, Audio 32, Hats 33, Oar.

◆SU-DO-KU-6719◆

								7
	4		7			1		
3		7		9	1			4
		8		5		2	1	
				3				
	9	2		7		5		
4			5	1		3		8
		1			6		2	
2								

very hard

4	7	6	8	2	3	1	5	9
5	3	1	9	4	7	8	2	6
9	2	8	5	1	6	4	3	7
8	4	2	3	9	5	6	7	1
1	5	9	6	7	2	3	8	4
7	6	3	1	8	4	5	9	2
3	9	7	4	5	1	2	6	8
2	1	5	7	6	8	9	4	3
6	8	4	2	3	9	7	1	5

SOLUTION TO 6718

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

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							RACK 1
A1	U1	W4	R1	N1	Y4	A1	
							RACK 2
N1	A1	N1	T1	I1	O1	C3	2nd Letter Double
							RACK 3
E1	M3	E1	H4	T1	A1	L1	Triple Word Score
							RACK 4
M3	N1	L1	I1	A1	A1	A1	

PAR SCORE 110-120
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

E1	I1	G2	H4	T1	S1	RACK 1 =	18
G2	U1	I1	L1	D2	E1	R1	RACK 2 = 59
C3	R1	U1	I1	S1	E1	D2	RACK 3 = 80
A1	L1	L1	E1	R1	G2	Y4	RACK 4 = 72
							229

PAR SCORE 150-160 JUDD'S TOTAL

JUMBLE®

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

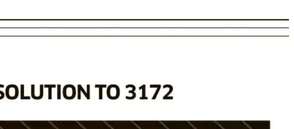
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MORAA

RUHNC

SBUACA

NLEBGO



Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

THE BIRD WHO CONSIDERED HERSELF IN CHARGE OF THE ROOSTING BIRDS WAS THE ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

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Yesterday's Jumbles: CROWN HIPPO IMPORT MEDIUM
Answer: They didn't plan to have lunch together, so when the identical twins did, it was — "IMPROMP-TWO"

HITORI-3173

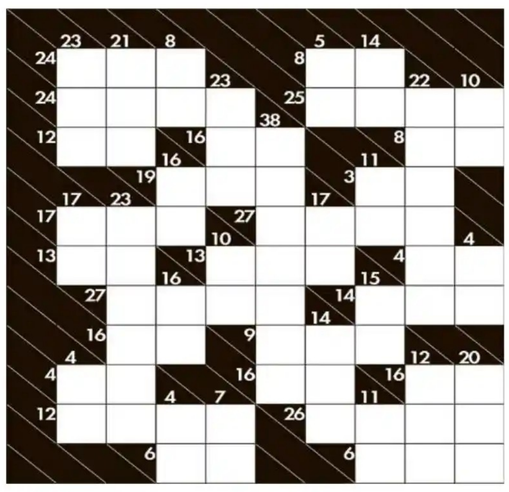
4	5	8	1	7	3	7	2
3	3	1	4	1	6	8	7
8	1	5	3	3	7	4	4
2	6	4	6	8	3	3	1
7	2	1	1	5	4	1	6
1	7	6	3	2	1	5	8
3	3	7	2	8	8	1	4
1	8	1	1	3	2	7	1

SOLUTION TO 3172

■	8	■	3	■	1	■	7
3	2	7	8	6	4	1	5
8	3	■	1	5	7	■	2
2	■	5	4	■	8	7	■
■	1	8	■	4	■	2	6
1	4	■	7	2	6	8	■
7	■	2	■	1	■	3	4
■	7	6	5	3	2	4	■

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

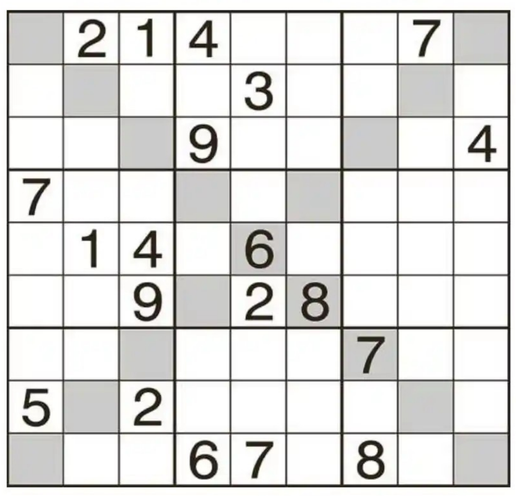
KAKURO- 3173



SOLUTION TO 3172

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3698



SOLUTION TO 3697

2	3	9	5	6	4	1	8	7
6	4	7	1	8	3	2	5	9
1	5	8	2	9	7	3	6	4
5	9	1	6	7	2	4	3	8
8	2	3	4	1	9	5	7	6
4	7	6	8	3	5	9	1	2
3	8	4	9	5	6	7	2	1
7	6	2	3	4	1	8	9	5
9	1	5	7	2	8	6	4	3

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

Niti Aayog hopeful of early trade pact between India, US

India should lower tariffs and non-tariff barriers: CEO

NEW DELHI, PTI

NITI Aayog CEO BVR Subrahmanyam on Monday exuded confidence that a trade agreement would be concluded between India and the US soon, as both countries are committed to having a mutually beneficial bilateral trade pact.

Subrahmanyam also said that India should lower tariffs and non-tariff barriers and open its markets to improve competitiveness in manufacturing.

"So the good thing is, both sides are still committed to having a trade deal. So negotiations happened last month, so I think both sides are hopeful," he told reporters while launching 'Trade Watch Quarterly' here.

The ties between New Delhi and Washington have come under severe stress after US President Donald Trump doubled tariffs on Indian goods in August to 50 per cent, including an additional 25 per cent duty on India's purchase of Russian crude oil.

India had described the US action as "unfair, unjustified and unreasonable".

Asked to comment on the impact of a whopping 50% tariffs on Indian goods, Subrahmanyam said, "Building a trade channel is difficult, and unwinding a trade channel is also difficult... No impact will happen till Christmas."

Niti Aayog CEO B.V.R Subrahmanyam (second from right) releases the fourth edition of 'Trade Watch Quarterly' report, in New Delhi, on Monday. PHOTO: PTI

The NITI Aayog CEO, however, noted that 'summer' is going to be an issue if both countries do not settle the trade deal.

"We are at a disadvantage...50% tariffs are a major, major cost factor... There is no escaping that. People are hopeful that if the trade deal comes through by November, then there will be no disruption," he said.

In February this year, leaders of the two countries directed officials to negotiate a proposed Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA).

It was planned to conclude the first tranche of the pact by the fall (October-November) of 2025. So far, five rounds of negotiations have been held. The pact is aimed at more than doubling the bilateral trade to $500 billion by 2030 from the current $191 billion.

The US remained India's largest trading partner for the fourth consecutive year in 2024-25, with bilateral trade valued at $131.84 billion ($86.5 billion exports).

Subrahmanyam said India's trade deficit is manageable but unbalanced.

While noting that India is absent in manufacturing intermediaries, Subrahmanyam said, "I do not think India should protect any sector."

Responding to a question on lifting curbs on investments from China, he said China is a major supplier for India as far as imports from China are concerned.

"If you are not able to sell more to China, then it is pointless...if you (India) are competitive, they will buy more products," he said.

The NITI Aayog said India's new manufacturing policy will focus on clusters... world-class ecosystem

"We need to diversify manufacturing," he said.

Eli Lilly to invest $1bn; expand contract manufacturing in India

A quality hub is also proposed in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD, DHNS

Patrik Jonsson, Executive Vice President and President Lilly International, Eli Lilly with Telangana chief minister A Revanth Reddy in Hyderabad on Monday.

Maker of the blockbuster weight loss diabetes drug Mounjaro, Eli Lilly and Company on Monday announced plans to invest over $1 billion over the next several years into new contract manufacturing in India, expanding patients' access to innovative medicines around the world.

This strategic investment will further strengthen the manufacturing and supply capabilities to support Eli Lily's evolving portfolio. Lilly's latest investment plan comes at a time US president, Donald Trump warned of tariffs on pharma and branded drugs produced outside the US.

In addition, the American pharma giant Lilly will establish a new manufacturing and quality presence in Hyderabad.

This new hub will offer advanced technical capabilities and oversight for Lilly's contract manufacturing network across India.

Recruitment will begin immediately, with openings across roles such as engineers, chemists, analytical scientists, quality control and assurance professionals, and management positions. This initiative reflects Lilly's intent to leverage India's highly skilled talent pool to support its global manufacturing growth and deliver medicines to patients worldwide.

Since 2020, Lilly has committed more than $55 billion to build, expand, and acquire facilities in the US and around the world. These facilities and investments address growth from potential new medicines to treat diabetes and obesity, Alzheimer's disease, cancer and autoimmune conditions and prepare for medicines of the future.

"We are making significant investments to increase manufacturing and medicine supply capacity around the world to help ensure patients have access to the medicines they need," said, Patrik Jonsson, Executive Vice President and President Lilly International, Eli Lilly and Company on Monday in Hyderabad after meeting Telangana chief minister, A Revanth Reddy.

"Working with trusted contract manufacturers expands our capabilities to deliver life-changing medicines at greater scale — with quality always at the core. This investment reaffirms our confidence in India as a hub for capability building within our global network," he added.

With a longstanding presence in India, including a commercial site in Gurugram and specialized sites in Bengaluru and Hyderabad that serve as important hubs supporting global innovation, Lilly is reinforcing its commitment to the country through strategic investments in local talent and technical capabilities.

"Lilly's continued expansion in Hyderabad highlights the city's emergence as a powerhouse in global healthcare innovation. From the recent opening of its Innovation and Technology site to a new manufacturing collaboration and the establishment of a Manufacturing & Quality hub, Lilly is moving swiftly to expand its presence in Telangana — reinforcing the state's position as a preferred destination for cutting-edge healthcare investments," said Revanth Reddy.

Revanth Reddy in August inaugurated the company's Global Capability Centre (GCC) in Hyderabad's Gachibowli.

Industries minister D Sridhar Babu added, "Lilly's expansion in Hyderabad is a testament to Telangana's dynamic industrial landscape and its growing influence in advanced healthcare manufacturing. The state's focus on technology-driven infrastructure and ease of doing business continues to attract global leaders across sectors and lifesciences sector in particular has been on accelerated growth."

Govt may waive billions in Vodafone's fees to aid UK ties

BLOOMBERG

The union government is considering a one-time settlement of its long-standing demand for billions of dollars in past-due fees from Vodafone Group Plc's beleaguered local venture, as the government seeks to strengthen ties with the UK, people familiar with the matter said.

Resolution in the nearly Rs 2 lakh crore ($22.5 billion) financial dispute may come through a waiver of interest and penalties, followed by a concession on the principal for Vodafone Idea Ltd, said the people, who asked not to be identified as the discussions are private.

A deal would throw a lifeline to India's third-largest wireless operator, shore up competition in a sector dominated by Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd as well as signal to global investors that New Delhi wants to remedy its reputation for unpredictable policy measures.

It's also a calculated diplomatic gesture toward the UK soon after the two countries inked a trade pact and just as Prime Minister Keir Starmer prepares to visit India this week. With US ties fraying under President Donald Trump and relations with China just beginning to warm, India may use any settlement with Vodafone Idea to anchor the UK as a more dependable economic partner and show that it can be pragmatic when strategic interests demand.

Indian officials are drafting the framework and also weighing steps to ensure any deal doesn't spark legal challenges from other telecom operators that owe dues, the people said.

Attract investors

The arrears have hung over the joint venture formed by the merger of the British firm's local unit with billionaire Kumar Mangalam Birla's Idea Cellular Ltd. It hasn't reported a quarterly profit since 2016. A settlement would potentially pave the way for the wireless carrier to attract new investors, the people added.

Starmer's scheduled visit has added urgency to the effort, one of the people said.

A representative for Vodafone Idea and India's telecom ministry did not respond to an email seeking comments on the resolution proposal.

The Indian government, which became Vodafone Idea's 49% shareholder this year through a debt-to-equity swap, has publicly acknowledged the need for a solution. A government counsel told the Supreme Court last month that "some solution may be required" given public funds are now tied up in the carrier.

The dispute itself pertains to how India calculates annual adjusted gross revenue (AGR), a share of which is paid as license and spectrum fees. While telecom carriers have challenged the method for years, the court may be more receptive this time if the government shifts its stance, one of the people said.

No unfair advantage

To be sure, officials will have to ensure that all telecom operators are treated fairly in the process of granting AGR relief — Sunil Mittal's Bharti Airtel Ltd and the Tata Group's wireless carrier have also been seeking relief. One option under discussion is to seek revival plans from all operators in exchange for any concession, ensuring that Vodafone Idea isn't given an unfair advantage over peers.

Vodafone Idea has been in urgent need of capital infusion and any potential deal with a new partner hinges on clarity around the AGR burden, the people said. If New Delhi proceeds with a solution, it would mark the most significant intervention yet in India's telecom sector since the government stepped in to take a near-majority stake in Vodafone Idea. The Supreme Court on Monday deferred a hearing on the company petition challenging the AGR dues calculation to October 13.

Gold price soars Rs 2,700 to storm past Rs 1.23 lakh/10 g in Delhi

NEW DELHI, PTI: Gold prices skyrocketed by Rs 2,700 to scale a fresh peak of Rs 1,23,300 per 10 grams in the national capital on Monday, lifted by safe-haven buying in the overseas markets.

According to the All India Sarafa Association, the yellow metal of 99.9% purity had closed at Rs 1,20,600 per 10 grams on Friday.

In the local bullion market, gold of 99.5% purity jumped by Rs 2,700 to hit a record high of Rs 1,22,700 per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes) on Monday. It had settled at Rs 1,20,000 per 10 grams in the previous market session.

"Gold reached a new record high on Monday as investors still prefer bullion despite this record high price. They are anticipating further gains in bullion backed by favourable fundamentals and strong bullish momentum," Saumil Gandhi, Senior Analyst - Commodities at HDFC Securities, said.

Gandhi noted that concerns about a prolonged US government shutdown potentially impacting economic performance are supporting the demand for safe-haven metal.

Silver prices also witnessed robust gains. The white metal bounced by Rs 7,400 to hit a new peak of Rs 1,57,400 per kilogram (inclusive of all taxes). It had ended at Rs 1,50,000 per kg on Friday, as per the association.

Silver prices have soared by Rs 67,700 or 75.47% in the current calendar year, rallying from Rs 89,700 per kg on December 31, 2024.

In the international markets, spot gold rose nearly 2% to touch an all-time high of $3,949.58 per ounce, while silver went up over 1% to hit a high of $48.75 per ounce.

"Spot gold extended gains and surged above $3,940 per ounce for the first time ever as the US government shutdown enters its sixth day, following the Senate's failure to pass funding bills on Friday," Kaynat Chainwala, AVP Commodity Research at Kotak Securities, said.

Meanwhile, gold and silver futures also hit their fresh peaks in the domestic futures market on Monday. The yellow metal futures for December delivery jumped by Rs 1,962 or 1.66% to hit a record high of Rs 1,20,075 per 10 grams on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX).

"Gold traded positively with sharp gains to hit a record Rs 1,20,000 per 10 grams-mark, as Comex gold extended its rally above USD 3,900 per ounce. The ongoing festive demand and global sentiment-driven rally continue to support prices, while rupee weakness adds domestic strength," Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst - Commodity and Currency at LKP Securities, said.

Govt mulls nationwide climate-linked insurance scheme

MUMBAI, REUTERS: The union government has begun early-stage talks with local insurers about designing a nationwide climate-linked insurance programme aimed at simplifying the payout process after extreme weather events such as heatwaves and floods.

The scheme would adopt a parametric insurance model, where policyholders receive a pre-determined payout when specific weather thresholds such as rainfall, temperature or windspeed are breached.

Should the discussions bear fruit, India - among the nations most prone to extreme weather events - could become one of the first major economies to roll out such a programme. The move would also help the government, which now uses funds earmarked for disasters to help states with adverse climate events, rein in costs as insurers would be taking on more risk.

"We've seen the frequency and severity of adverse climate events go up, and based on that, this discussion with the government also started," said Ramaswamy Narayanan, former chairperson of state-run reinsurer GIC Re, who retired last week but was part of the discussions.

Under a parametric model, payouts can be made very quickly, whereas in traditional insurance, payments are based on the loss sustained and assessments can take years.

LG's IPO attracts Abu Dhabi, Norway, Singapore wealth funds

BLOOMBERG: LG Electronics Inc.'s initial public offering of its India arm has attracted the sovereign wealth funds of Abu Dhabi, Norway and Singapore, according to people familiar with the matter.

Abu Dhabi Investment Authority, Norges Bank Investment Management and GIC Pte. are in talks to buy shares in the $1.3 billion IPO as anchor investors, the people said, asking not to be identified discussing private information. BlackRock Inc and Fidelity International Ltd are also slated to be part of the anchor book, they said. India's largest fund managers including SBI Mutual Fund, ICICI Prudential Asset Management Co and Nippon Life India Asset Management Ltd are set to invest as well.

KARNATAKA STATE LAW UNIVERSITY'S LAW SCHOOL
Navanagar,Hubballi-25
Accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade

2 Year LL.M. ADMISSION NOTIFICATION 2025-26

Applications are invited for 2yr LL.M. (Constitutional Law, Intellectual Property Rights Laws and Criminal Law) for Academic Year 2025-26

Last date for submission of filled in application form to KSLU's Law School	14-10-2025
Announcement of list of selected candidate on merit cum reservation basis	16-10-2025
Date of commencement of classes for 'Odd' semester	23-10-2025

Minimum Qualification:
*** LL.B. with 45% Aggregate Marks (SC/ST 40%)**

Application Forms may be obtained from the Office of the Karnataka State Law University's Law School, Navanagar, Hubballi-580 025, by paying an application fee of Rs.500/- (for SC/ST Rs.250/-) through Bank Challan, SBI Online Challan.

OR

Application can also be downloaded from the Website www.kslu.karnataka.gov.in and filled Application shall be submitted along with the Bank Challan, SBI Online Challan to The Director, KSLU's Law School, Navanagar, Hubballi-580025

Contact Details: Phone: 0836-2956072 For more details refer **website www.kslu.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- DIRECTOR
KSLU's Law School
Navangar, Hubli-25

DIPR/Dharwad/738/DeshpandePublicity/2025-26

Government of Karnataka
Minor Irrigation and Ground water Development Division, Chitradurga

NO.EE/MI&GWD DIV/CTA/PB1/SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION:10/2025-26/1594 DATE:04-10-2025

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION
K.W.-3 & 4 (TWO COVER SYSTEM)

Item rate tender in Two cover system as per KTPP act-2000 with latest amendments is Invited from the eligible contractors registered in KPWD (KW -3 & 4) (Minimum amount put to Tender-Rs-77.02 Lakhs and Maximum amount put to Tender Rs-240.92Lakhs) for the 05 works through KPP-procurement portal. Tender documents may be downloaded from KPPP-Portal website :https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 06-10-09-2025 Last Date & Time for enquiries about tender 16-10-2025 upto 5.30 P.M., Last Date for submission of Tenders 17-10-2025 upto 4.00 P.M. Opening of Technical bid Date: 18-10-2025 after 04.30 P.M (If possible). Opening of Finanical bid Date 21-10-2025 after 04.30 P.M (If possible). Tenders may be submitted along with EMD and tender fee (Mode of payment should be online only as prescribed in website). Amount mentioned in KPPP-portal is final for the amount put to tender & the E.M.D. Additional Information regarding works may be obtained from the Division Office during office hours & from KPPP-Portal help desk No+91-8046010000+91-8068948777 & support@eprochelpdesk.com

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/404/2025-26

Sd/- Executive Engineer, MI, Chitradurga

Trading platform Dhan turns unicorn with $120 mn fundraise

BENGALURU, DHNS: Raise Financial Services (Raise), the parent company of stock trading platform Dhan, has entered the unicorn club with $120 million fundraise, led by Hornbill Capital and participation from Japan's Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group Inc (MUFG) and Singapore's BEENEXT. The round values the company at $1.20 billion.

The funding round also saw participation from public market investors Ramesh Damani, DSP Family Office, JM Financial Family Office, Aashish Somaiyaa and others. The platform has nearly 1 million active users.

"We are humbled to have found early success and product-market fit for Dhan amongst the Indian retail trading community. With this investment, we're excited to grow, innovate and double down on our focus on Dhan, and at the same time introduce new products that are focused on Investing, AI and expand into the distribution of Financial Services," said Pravin Jadhav, Founder and CEO, Raise Financial Services.

Headquartered in Mumbai, Raise Financial Services was founded in January 2021 by serial entrepreneur Pravin Jadhav, ex-Founder and CEO of Paytm Money, along with Alok Pandey, Jay Prakash Gupta and Raunak Rathi.

"Hornbill Capital has tracked and invested in leaders of India's capital markets for over a decade. In less than four years, Dhan – driven by a product-first mindset, strong technology focus, and relentless innovation – has built one of India's leading stock trading platforms in a profitable and capital-efficient manner," said Manoj Thakur, Founder of Hornbill Capital.

Avendus Capital acted as the exclusive financial advisor to Raise and its investors, and Veritas Legal acted as a legal advisor to Raise and its shareholders for the transaction.

"Digital adoption is accelerating access to financial products in India, creating a strong foundation for innovative platforms. Dhan has built deeply customer-centric, technology-led products that deliver speed and reliability at scale," said Shashank Joshi, Deputy CEO at MUFG India.

GST rate cut unlikely to take out focus from EVs: Mahindra executive

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The reduced tax margins between electric vehicles and diesel/petrol run vehicles due to the goods and services tax (GST) rate rationalisation is unlikely to take out focus from the transition to cleaner energy, a senior Nalinikanth Gollagunta, Chief Executive Officer–Automotive Division, Mahindra & Mahindra, said on Monday.

He said Mahindra & Mahindra has outlined plans to increase electric vehicles manufacturing to around 30% by 2030 from the current around 5% and there is no change in the company's strategy due to GST rate changes.

The government has reduced GST on internal-combustion engine vehicles effective from September 22. GST on small cars up to 4 metres in length has been cut to 18% from earlier rate of 28% plus surcharge while on bigger vehicles it has been lowered to a flat rate of 40% from earlier effective rate ranging from 43%-50% (including cess). GST on electric vehicles has remained unchanged at 5%. This has resulted in a significant drop in tax incentives on the cleaner fuel vehicles.

Addressing a media roundtable in Mumbai, Gollagunta said GST rate rationalisation has boosted sales across all vehicles categories.

While, most of the manufactures passed on the benefits of the GST rate cut on vehicles to consumers effective from September 22, Mahindra & Mahindra cut the prices proactively with effect from September 6.

Mahindra & Mahindra on Monday launched new variants of its Bolero model with starting price of Rs 7.99 lakh (ex-showroom). The new price is lower than the downward revised price of Rs 8.79 lakh, which was announced last month following the GST rate rationalisation announcement.

boAt returns to profitability after 2 years; posts Rs 60 cr profit in FY25

NEW DELHI, PTI: Imagine Marketing, the parent company of wearables brand boAt, on Monday said it has returned to profitability in FY25 with a consolidated net profit of Rs 60 crore after reporting losses in the preceding two years.

This was a significant turnaround from a net loss of Rs 79.7 crore in FY24 and Rs 129.5 crore in FY23.

"The turnaround was driven by category leadership, product innovation, and disciplined cost control," the IPO-bound company said in a statement.

The Gurugram-based company reported a consolidated revenue of Rs 3,097.8 crore, supported by sustained market dominance in audio, strategic growth in wearables, and strong traction in new businesses.

On a standalone basis, the company's revenue in FY25 stood at Rs 3,089.6 crore with a net profit of Rs 64.2 crore.

"Through cost discipline, innovation, and a deep understanding of consumer needs, we have not only returned to profitability but also laid the foundation for long-term sustainable growth," Gaurav Nayyar, CEO of boAt, said.

Pakistan's Sidra reprimanded

COLOMBO, PTI: Pakistan batter Sidra Amin was on Monday reprimanded and handed one demerit point by the ICC for breaching its Level 1 of Code of Conduct during the Women's World Cup match against India here.

Amin waged a lone battle for Pakistan in a one-sided contest with a knock of 81 before her team was bowled out for 159 in reply to India's 247 at the R Premadasa Stadium on Sunday. Pakistan lost the match by 88 runs.

"Sidra was found to have breached Article 2.2 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel, which relates to 'abuse of cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings during an International Match'," the ICC said in a media release.

The incident occurred in the 40th over of Pakistan's chase when she "forcefully hit her bat onto the pitch" after being dismissed by Sneh Rana.

"In addition to this, one demerit point has been added to her disciplinary record, for whom it was the first offence in a 24-month period," the ICC said.

MCC backs third umpire's' call in Muneeba run-out

COLOMBO, PTI: The Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) on Monday clarified that the third umpire's decision to adjudge Pakistan opener Muneeba Ali run out during their 88-run loss to India in the Women's World Cup was "entirely correct", asserting there was no deviation from the Laws of Cricket.

On the last ball of the fourth over of Pakistan's chase of 248 here on Sunday, Muneeba survived an lbw appeal off Kranti Goud.

But as she stepped out of her crease, Deepti Sharma's throw hit the stumps. Muneeba had grounded her bat briefly, it was airborne when the ball struck, leading to her dismissal after a third-umpire review.

CRICKET WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

Kranti focussed on pace

India pacer returned with 3/20 in convincing win over Pakistan

COLOMBO, PTI

Since bursting onto the international scene less than five months ago, Kranti Goud has swiftly evolved into India's go-to new ball weapon and the youngster now wants to add more pace to her deliveries.

In a high-stakes Women's World Cup clash against Pakistan on Sunday, the seamer underlined her growing importance to the team, returning excellent figures of 3 for 20 in 10 overs that included three maidens, to derail Pakistan's chase of 247.

Her performance set up an emphatic 88-run victory and earned Goud her first Player of the Match award at the very venue where she made her national debut in May this year.

Asked about her conversations with India's bowling coach Aavishkar Salvi, Goud said, "Right now, the bowling coach hasn't told me anything about my speed," she told reporters

"Our focus is on maintaining a consistent line and length, not trying to do too much. I'm comfortable with my pace at the moment, but I want to bowl faster."

Having dismissed opener Sadaf Shamas off her own bowling, she backed her instincts to fetch the wicket of Aliya Riaz, leaving Pakistan reeling at 3/26.

Kranti Goud (centre) stole the show against Pakistan at the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo on Sunday with a three-wicket haul. AFP

KRANTI GOUD
India fast bowler

"My India debut was also in Sri Lanka, and today I'm the Player of the Match here. It's a proud moment for me and my family. I'm very happy

"The ball was swinging a lot. I had this feeling inside me that there will be a wicket in this over. Hary di (Harmanpreet Kaur) asked to remove the second slip as the pace was reducing but I told di that 'please keep a second slip'."

After insisting on having a second slip Goud had Riaz steer the ball straight to her.

"The catch came to the second slip so I had a lot of trust in myself."

For Goud, it's been a dream start. Hailing from Ghuwara, a town in Bundelkhand in Madhya Pradesh, she's risen through the ranks with quiet determination.

Just last year, she was a net bowler for Mumbai Indians in the Women's Premier League. The UP Warriorz then snapped her up for a base price of Rs 10 lakh at the auction.

When injuries to Renuka Thakur and Pooja Vastrakar opened the doors for her in the national setup, Goud seized the opportunity with both hands.

A sensational run in the away series against England, which included a six-wicket haul in the series-deciding third ODI earlier this year, sealed her place in the squad and since then, she's only gone from strength to strength.

Ankushita, Arundhati strike gold

CHENNAI, PTI

Former Youth World Champions Ankushita Boro and Arundhati Choudhary produced commanding gold-medal winning performances as the women's finals concluded at the inaugural BFI Cup here on Monday.

Ankushita (Assam) showcased her trademark aggression to edge Rajasthan's Parthavi Grewal 3-2 in the 60–65kg category, while Arundhati (Services) stamped her authority with a dominant 5-0 win over Sneha (AIP) in the 65–70kg final.

World Championships bronze medallist Parveen Hooda (SAI) also lived up to expectations, overcoming Priya (Haryana) 3-2 in a closely fought 57–60kg bout as the Elite Women's competition crowned its champions across ten weight divisions.

Among other results, Nivedita Karki (Uttarakhand) defeated World Championships silver medallist Manju Rani (Railways) 3-2 to clinch the 45–48kg title, while Bhavna Sharma (Railways) outclassed Savita (Railways) 5-0 in the 48–51kg final. Maharashtra's Khushi Jadhav edged Divya Pawar (AIP) 3-2 for gold in the 51–54kg category, and Himachal Pradesh's Vinakshi Dhota blanked Mushkan (AIP) 5-0 in the 54–57kg division.

In the men's draw, S Vishwanath (Services) stormed into the 47–50kg final with a commanding 5-0 win over Gopi Mishra (Services).

Five-star SA outclass Kiwis

Mlaba, Brits, Luus shine in dominant six-wicket win

INDORE, PTI

Opener Tazmin Brits struck a sparkling century, her fourth in the last five matches, to complement Nonkululeko Mlaba's four-wicket burst as South Africa outclassed reigning T20I champions New Zealand by six wickets in the Women's ODI World Cup, here on Monday.

Having been shot out for a mere 69 in their tournament opener against England, South Africa produced a clinical all-round performance, with their bowling and fielding unit setting it up before the top order completed the 232-run chase in 40.5 overs.

South Africa's bowlers, led by the left-arm spinner Mlaba (4/40), produced a disciplined performance to bowl out New Zealand for 231 in 47.5 overs after the White Ferns opted to bat.

Mlaba, who also effected a run-out, was the clear game-changer, triggering a middle-order collapse with the crucial wickets of skipper Sophie Devine (85 off 98 balls, 9x4) and Brooke Halliday (45) to ensure that the Kiwis were restricted below 250.

Tazmin Brits scored an 89-ball 101 in South Africa's six-wicket win over New Zealand. X

Brits then batted with authority and nonchalance to compile a fluent 101 off 89 balls studded with 15 fours and one six, her seventh ODI century and first in a World Cup.

The experienced Sune Luus anchored the chase with a composed 81 not out from 114 balls (9x4, 1x6), taking South Africa over the line with 55 balls to spare.

This emphatic result gave South Africa a timely lift ahead of their high-profile clash against hosts and title favourites India at Visakhapatnam on October 9.

From being at the bottom of the standings with the worst NRR of -3.773, the Laura Wolvaardt-led side jumped to fifth position with NRR -1.424.

The 2000 World Cup champions New Zealand, who had lost to Australia by 89 runs earlier in the tournament, now sit at the bottom of the standings and they will next face Bangladesh in Guwahati on October 10.

Brits and Luus added a record 159-run stand for the third wicket off 170 balls — South Africa's highest partnership for any wicket in Women's World Cup history — to script a remarkable turnaround after being bowled out for their second-lowest total in the tournament in the previous game.

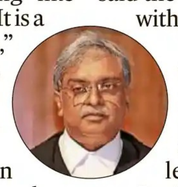
Brits, who has been in prolific form, almost offered a caught-and-bowl chance on 99 before bringing up her milestone.

Brief scores: New Zealand: 231 all out in 47.5 overs (Georgia Plimmer 31, Sophie Devine 85, Brooke Halliday 45; Nonkululeko Mlaba 4-45) lt to South Africa: 234/4 in 40.5 overs (Tazmin Brits 101, Sune Luus 83 n.o.; Amelia Kerr 2-63) by six wickets.
PoM: Tazmin Britz.
Today's match: Bangladesh vs England.

'Time for Supreme Court to stay off matters related to sports'

NEW DELHI, PTI: The Supreme Court on Monday said it is high time that it kept its hands off in matters related to sports, including cricket.

"There is nothing like sport now in cricket. It is a fact. It is all business," a bench of Justices Vikram Nath **(in pic)** and Sandeep Mehta observed.



The observation came from the bench while it was hearing a petition challenging a Madhya Pradesh High Court order in a matter pertaining to a cricket association for the Jabalpur division.

"Today, we are playing cricket. Three-four matters. One is already adjourned for the second round. This is the second one. There are two more. How many test matches will you play today?" Justice Nath asked the lawyers representing various sides in the matter.

The petitioner's counsel said the country is obsessed with cricket.

"I think it is high time that this court should keep its hands off in cricket and badminton, volleyball, basketball," Justice Nath said.

The petitioner's counsel said these matters are coming up before the apex court because of certain concerns.

"The issue is, the stakes have become very high in all of these matters," the counsel said, adding, "In any game, which has become commercialised, that is bound to happen."

Prabhsimran's breezy ton guides India A to series win

KANPUR, PTI: Opener Prabhsimran Singh smashed a scintillating 68-ball 102 before skipper Shreyas Iyer and Riyan Parag struck fluent half-centuries to guide India A to a two-wicket win over Australia A in the third and final unofficial ODI here on Sunday.

India won the series 2-1.

Australia A posted 316 in 49.1 overs, thanks to skipper Jack Edwards' 89 off 75 balls and a 73 from Liam Scott.

Brief scores: Australia A: 316 all out in 49.1 overs (Jack Edwards 89, Liam Scott 73, Cooper Connolly 64; Arshdeep Singh 3-38, Harshit Rana 3-61, Ayush Badoni 2-31) lt to India A: 322/8 in 46 overs (Prabhsimran Singh 102, Shreyas Iyer 62, Riyan Parag 62; Todd Murphy 4-42, Tanveer Sangha 4-72) by 2 wickets.
Series: India A won 3-match series 2-1;
PoM: Prabhsimran Singh; **PoS**: Riyan Parag.

Office of the Medical Superintendent
K.C. GENERAL HOSPITAL
Malleshwaram, Bengaluru -560 003
Ph.: 080-23344022/23341771, e-mail:kcghoffice@gmail.com

No.: KCGH/DNB/5/2025-26 Dated: 06.10.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Walk in interview will be held for the post of DNB PG Teacher / Senior Consultant at K.C. General Hospital, Bengaluru for DNB course on contract basis. Interview will be conducted for the advertised post as shown below. All eligible candidates have to appear personally along with requisite certificates on **13.10.2025, Time: 11.00 AM** at Office of the Commissioner, 5th Floor, Health and Family Welfare Services, Arogya Saudha, Magadi Road, Bengaluru.

Specialty	No.of Posts	Remuneration
Anaesthesia	01	Rs. 1.5 Lakhs
General Surgery	01	Rs. 1.5 Lakhs

Eligibility criteria: 1. PG Degree in the particular specialty with 10 years of post PG experience including 5 years PG teaching experience in recognized medical college or a DNB centre. **2.** Should have guided a minimum of 02 PG/DNB students. **3.** He/She should be registered under the Karnataka Medical Council (KMC). **4.** The specialists will initially recruited for a period of 1 year. For continuing the services an appraisal will be performed and if found satisfactory, the services may be continued. **5. Age Limit:** Within **67 years** of age with good physical and mental health.

Sd/-
Medical Superintendent
K.C. General Hospital, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/JA /3112/2025-26

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD
3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009.

Tender Notification
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Karnataka Housing Board invite tender from the eligible Pre qualified contractors & willing to Pre qualify in Karnataka Housing Board through Karnataka public procurement portal for below mentioned works.

Sl.No.	Name of the work
1	Construction of Minority Welfare Department, Central Navodaya Type Residential School (2nd Phase) at Channalli Village, Gorebala Hobli, Sindhanoor Taluk, Raichur District under PMJVK Scheme. **Work Indent No:** KHB/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT 651 & IFT No.98/2025-26 Date: 06.10.2025. **Amount put to tender:** Rs.7,61,38,999/-
2	Construction of Balance Works & Other Allied Works in Existing Commercial Complex (Bearshell Frame Work) at Channapattna Layout, Hassan District. **Work Indent No:** KHB/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT 637 & IFT No.97/2025-26 Date: 29.09.2025. **Amount put to tender:** Rs.1,94,89,803/-

Last date for submission of bids: For Sl. No. 1- 07.11.2025. up to 4.00 PM. and for Sl.No. 2 - 18.10.2025 up to 4.00 PM.

For further information, contact below mentioned office address: Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru. Telephone No: 080-22273511/080-22100077, Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/3124/AKAR/2025-26

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer KNNL, GLBC Dn. No. 2, Jamkhandi. Tq: Jamakhandi Dist: Bagalakote State: Karanataka

No: KNNL/GLBC-2/DB/Tender/25-26/825 Date:- 04.10.2025

CORRIGENDUM-3

With reference to this office tender notification No. 492 dated: 04.08.2025, tender Corrigendum-1 No. 694 dated: 04.09.2025 & tender Corrigendum-2 No. 754 dated: 18.09.2025 through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal following modification are made with respect to Tender Schedule.

Sl No.	Work Indent Number
1	KNNL/2024-25/LI/ WORK_INDENT **2875**

1)Last Date for Submission of completed e-tendering documents is on 15.10.2025 up to 5.30 PM. 2)First Electronic Document (Technical BID) will be opened on 17.10.2025 at 11.00 AM. 3)Second Electronic Document (financial Bid) will be opened after approval to the technical bid from the competent authority.

For more details visit website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in or at undersigned in all working days during office hours.

Sd/-Executive Engineer,
KNNL, GLBC Dn No. 2 Jamkhandi.

DIPR/BGK/RO-NO-321/KSMCA/2025-26

RASHTRIYA E MARKET SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
NO.16, 2nd Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru – 560 001
Ph. No: 9448188405 e-mail: krishnamurthy.v@remsl.in

No: ADM 04-01/2025-26 Date: 07.10.2025

BRIEF e- TENDER NOTIFICATION

Rashtriya e Market Services Private Limited is inviting brief tender for Renovation of 2nd Floor of Karnataka State Agricultural Marketing Board Building. More information in this regard can be obtained from **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** portal vide indent No. REMSL/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT1 or www.remsl.in. The last date for submission of bids is **23.10.2025**.

Sd/-
Senior Consultant
Rashtriya e Market Services Pvt. Ltd

DAVANAGERE POWER TRANSMISSION LIMITED
(100% wholly owned subsidiary of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited)
B-9, QUTAB INSTITUTIONAL AREA, KATWARIA SARAI, NEW DELHI-110 016

NOTICE

(UNDER SUB-SECTION (2) OF SECTION 15 OF THE ELECTRICITY ACT, 2003)

1. **DAVANAGERE POWER TRANSMISSION LIMITED,** having its Registered Office at **B-9, QUTAB INSTITUTIONAL AREA, KATWARIA SARAI, NEW DELHI-110016,** which is incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013, has made an application before the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, New Delhi under Sub- Section (1) of Section 15 of the Electricity Act, 2003 for grant of Transmission Licence in respect of the transmission lines, sub-stations and other assets, the details of which are given below:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Line / Substation (location as per Note)	Line Length as per survey report of BPC /Capacity	Transmission Charges (INR) Million per annum	Schedule COD	Remarks
1	Augmentation of transformation capacity by 4x500 MVA, 400/220 kV ICTs (5th – 8th) at Davanagere PS	2000 MVA	423.11	24 months 24.09.2027	-
2	Augmentation of Davanagere / Chitradurga PS by 765/400 kV, 1x1500 MVA ICTs	1500 MVA			
3	2 Nos. of 220 kV line bays at Davanagere / Chitradurga PS for termination of dedicated transmission lines of RE generation projects	-			

Note: (i) Locations for all elements are in the state of Karnataka
(ii) For complete scope please visit https://www.powergrid.in/subsidiaries

2. Complete application and other documents filed before the Commission are available on the web site of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited https://www.powergrid.in/subsidiaries for access by any person. The application can also be inspected at the office of the Company at C/o ED (TBCB), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Saudamini, Plot No.2, Sector -29, Gurgaon 122001 with Sh. B. Sridhar, Project Incharge, Davanagere Power Transmission Limited or Office of the Commission in accordance with the procedure specified by the Commission.

3. Objections or suggestions, if any, be filed before the Secretary, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, 7th Floor, Tower B, World Trade Centre, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi- 110029, with a copy of the objection(s)/suggestion(s) to the applicant or its authorized agent, within 15 days of the publication of the notice in the newspaper.

Sh. B. Sridhar
Project Incharge,
Davanagere Power Transmission Limited

Place: New Delhi
Date: 07.10.2025

Karnataka Neeravari Nigama Niyamitha
(Government of Karnataka undertaking)
Executive Engineer, KNNL,No.6 Canal Division, Ballari

Tender Notification

Reference: This office tender notification No: 1026 ; Dated: 04.10.2025

The Executive Engineer, KNNL No.6 Canal Division, Ballari on behalf of Managing Director KNNL, Bangalore invites the tender for Two works namely WI.3180 & WI.3181 with Amount put to Tender (Excluding GST) of Rs.37.07 Crores & Rs.17.07 Crores respectively in the Jurisdiction of this Division under the head of account CEPMIZ-KMERC from the registered eligible contractors in the KPWD, GOK on Two Cover system basis through Karnataka public procurement portal.

The bidders can access and download blank tender document through e-procurement from 13.10.2025 from 4.00 PM onwards

The last date for the submission of tenders is 12.11.2025 up to 4.30pm, Technical bid opening date is 13.11.2025 at 5.00 pm and Financial bid opening date is 12.12.2025 at 5.00 pm or after approval of Technical Bid.

The Tender documents can be viewed/downloaded from the website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. For any changes either in tender details or any other conditions, if recalled, tenderers can view in KPPP Portal only. Separate notification in this regards will not be published.

For any additional information, the tenderers may contact the office of the undersigned during office working hours or submit the request through office email: eeno6cdbly@yahoo.in for information.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
KNNL,No.6 Canal Division, Ballari

DIPR/Ballari/496/KSMCA/2025-26

KARNATAKA FOREST DEPARTMENT
Office of the Assistant Conservator of Forest, Madhugiri Sub Division, (Territorial) Division, Sira Road, Near Agriculture Directore Office, Madhugiri - 572 132. E-mail : acfmadhurigi@gmail.com

No.: A.C.F./M.S.D./E-TENDER/CR-04/2025-26 Date: 04-10-2025

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

E-Tender is invited by the **Forest Department, Madhugiri Sub-Division, Tumkur Territorial Division Pertaining to Madhugiri, Sira, Koratagere and Pavagada Range under CEPMIZ (KMERC), ROAD SIDE, DDF, KFDF (MANSOON PLANTATION) AND RSPD Scheme for Excavation of CPT and Planting of Agave Plants on bunds, Raising of Plantation, Advance Work and Raising of Pbs. Advance Work and Raising of Seedlings, Grass Land Development, Carry Out Cultural Operations in Older Plantations, Documentation of Flora and Fauna, Engagging Fire Watchers in Fire Season, Rising of Seedlings Distribution of 8X12 Seedlings and other works.** The Bidder needs to be Registered as Forest Contractor during 2025-26 for Forestry works can participate for the following works.

Total No. of Works - 35, Highest Value of the Work : Rs. 97,26,990/-, Highest Value EMD : Rs. 1,94,540/-, Lowest Value of the Work : Rs. 1,03,440/-, Lowest Value EMD : Rs. 2,586/-.

1) Bid Submission Closing Date & Time : 16-10-2025 at 3.00 p.m., 2) Technical Bid Opening Date : 17-10-2025 at 3.00 p.m., 3) Price Bid Opening Date : 18-10-2025 at 3.00 p.m., 4) Last Date for Bid Enquiry : 10-10-2025 at 3.00 p.m.

For more information about this tender may contact our office at office timings and more details on **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Assistant Conservator of Forest,
Madhugiri Sub Division, Madhugiri.

DIPR/Tumkur/28/Manipal/2025-26

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ & ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು,
ಉತ್ತರಕನ್ನಡ–ಕಾರವಾರ

E-mail: dhoukannada@gmail.com Phone: 08382-226339, Fax: 08382-222452

ನಂ. ಸಿ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ./ಎಂಡೋ/64/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 06–10–2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

(ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ವಿಷಯ: ಎಂಡೋಸಲ್ಫಾನ್ ಪುನರ್ವಸತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 2025–26ನೇ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಪರಿತ್ತಿಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಸಂಚಾರಿ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಘಟಕ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸುವ ಕುರಿತು.

ಎಂಡೋಸಲ್ಫಾನ್ ಪುನರ್ವಸತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 2025–26ನೇ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಪರಿತ್ತಿಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು ಹೊರ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಆರು ತಾಲೂಕುಗಳಾದ ಅಂಕೋಲಾ, ಕುಮಟಾ, ಹೊನ್ನಾವರ, ಭಟ್ಕಳ, ಶಿರಸಿ, ಸಿದ್ದಾಪುರದಲ್ಲಿ, ಸಂಚಾರಿ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಘಟಕದ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಾಣಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ/ಎಜೆನ್ಸಿಗಳಿಂದ ಈ ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಅಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಮೂನೆಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ವಿವರಗಳು	ದಿನಾಂಕ
1	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ 2%	ರೂ. 1,71,000.00
2	ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಡೌನಲೋಡ್ ಆರಂಭ ದಿನಾಂಕ	08–10–2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10 ಘಂಟೆಯಿಂದ
3	ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ	13–10–2025, ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5–30 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ
4	ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	16–10–2025 ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5–30 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ
5	ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ	18–10–2025
6	ಟೆಂಡರ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ	85.23 (ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)

ಸಹಿ/–
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕು.ಕ. ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು
ಉತ್ತರಕನ್ನಡ, ಕಾರವಾರ

IN BRIEF

Shivashankar is BTC chairman

L Shivashankar has been elected the Chairman and Senior Steward of the Bangalore Turf Club Limited at the Members of the Managing Committee meeting in Bengaluru on Monday, reports DHNS.

Joshi leaves Punjab Kings

Former India off-spinner Sunil Joshi on Monday left his role as the spin bowling coach of Indian Premier League team Punjab Kings due to personal reasons, reports PTI from New Delhi.

The 55-year-old former left-arm spinner had joined Punjab Kings as their bowling coach ahead of IPL 2023, and remained a part of the side which made an appearance in the final earlier this year.

"He will be leaving the Punjab side as he wants to spend more time with his family in Bangalore," an IPL source told PTI.

Triple gold for Bhagat

Ace Indian para shuttler Pramod Bhagat continued his golden run as he clinch three titles at the 1st Abia Para Badminton International tournament held in Abia, Nigeria, from September 30 to October 5.

The 37-year-old, who won gold at Tokyo Paralympic but missed out of Paris Games due to three whereabouts failures, captured the men's singles SL3 crown with a hard-fought 21-7, 9-21, 21-9 win over compatriot Mantu Kumar in the final.

Bhagat combined with Sukant Kadam to add the men's doubles gold, 21-17. His third title came in mixed doubles (SL3-SU5) with partner Arati Patil.

Indian players for LPL

The organisers of the Lanka Premier League (LPL) on Monday announced that Indian cricketers will feature in the tournament for the first time when its sixth edition begins on December 1, reports PTI from New Delhi.

Aminul elected BCB chief

Bangladesh's first Test centurion Aminul Islam was elected president of the country's cricket board on Monday, securing the post unopposed for a four-year term after serving an interim role, reports AFP from Dhaka.

The 57-year-old, better known as "Bulbul", captained Bangladesh in their first World Cup appearance in 1999.

Since his retirement from playing the game, he has worked for the International Cricket Council and the Asian Cricket Council.

Sharma finishes tied-61st

India's Shubhankar Sharma carded 1-under 71 and finished tied-61st at the Alfred Dunhill Links with inclement weather having reduced the tournament to three rounds and 54 holes, reports PTI from Carnoustie, Scotland.

Ex footballer no more

Former Karnataka footballer Sachinadra Rao passed away in a road accident near Hegde Nagar in Bengaluru on Monday, reports DHNS.

The midfielder captained the state team at the 1981 Santosh Trophy and was part in the 1983 squad.

◆ ON TV ◆

CRICKET

Women's World Cup: England vs Bangladesh (3 pm). **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network.**

TENNIS

Shanghai Masters: Day 7 (10 am). **LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network.**

CRICKET INDIA-WI TEST SERIES

About time Sudharsan lived up to promise

The southpaw has averaged just 21 in four Tests so far

SIDNEY KIRAN
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

One of the players whom the national selectors have identified for the crucial number three slot in Test matches for a transitioning India is Sai Sudharsan. Tall, naturally elegant and blessed with oodles of talent, the shy Tamil Nadu batter had taken the previous two IPLs by storm and seemed primed to make the big leap to international cricket in whites when he was picked for the five-Test series against England early this summer.

Although T20s and Test matches are completely different ball games with both needing their unique set of skills, the 23-year-old Sudharsan had shown enough promise in first-class cricket also since his debut in December 2022 for Ajit Agarkar and Co to take a punt on him as the national team had to be rebuilt following the retirements of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli.

And it wasn't surprising when Sudharsan was handed the Test cap in the series-opening game at Leeds in mid-June. Newly appointed captain Shubman Gill, who had taken the No. 3 slot from veteran Cheteshwar Pujara, dropped down to No. 4 — the one occupied by Virat Kohli for more than a decade. The stage was set for Sudharsan to go and grab the opportunity with both hands.

It turned out to be a baptism by fire as Sudharsan got out for a four-ball duck, flicking a Ben Stokes ball way down the leg-side into the hands of wicket-keeper Jamie Smith. He fared a little better in the second innings, scoring a fluid 48-ball 30 before getting out after a loose shot, clipping the ball aerially to midwicket — again off Stokes.

Sudharsan's casual errors and the Indian team's defeat saw him benched for the next two games, but the youngster returned for the fourth Test in Manchester, where he made a decent impression with 61 in the first innings but faltered in the second, where India were trying to save the game, with a first-ball duck. Two ducks in four innings don't really paint a nice picture for someone as talented as him. The series ended in disappointment for Sudharsan as he just managed 38 and 11 in the last Test at the Oval.

So when the selectors sat down to decide the squad for the two-match West Indies series, his spot was under deliberation, but with Karun Nair too underperforming in England, they backed Sudharsan and brought in Devdutt Padikkal, considering both are below 25. "Frankly, we expected a bit more from Karun in England," was Agarkar's blunt assessment before adding, "But going forward, Sai has shown a lot of promise. We know he's a very good player. Hopefully, we can give him a longish run from now on, at a particular number."

Sudharsan, who warmed up for the West Indies series with scores of 73, 75 and 100 in the two four-day games against Australia A in Lucknow, failed yet again in the opening Test. The big worry has been lapses in concentration that have resulted in him playing loose shots that have cost him his wicket. Ahmedabad was an ideal chance for him to get a big knock and vindicate the selectors and team management's faith in him, but he ended up getting out for 7 off 19 balls. The mode of dismissal will rankle him, missing a pull shot off-spinner Roston Chase completely, the ball hitting him flush on the pads for an easy LBW decision.

Yes, Sudharsan has the backing for now, and some youngsters will be given the long rope, but even he knows the chord can be snapped anytime considering the amount of talent that's bursting through the ranks. There's Padikkal, a southpaw and No. 3 batter like him, in the squad. There are talks that the impressive Dhruv Jurel might be tried purely as a batter after regular wicketkeeper Rishabh Pant returns from injury. T20 stars Abhishek Sharma and Tilak Varma are knocking on the door too. There's lower middle-order batter Sarafaraz Khan as well. Sudharsan will be aware of the competition that's breathing down his neck. He really needs to score big in the second Test starting October 10 in New Delhi to loosen the noose. Else, his spot may be on the line for the South Africa series.

Sai Sudharsan has so far failed to grab the chances he has been given in Tests, and his spot maybe on the line if the left-hander doesn't deliver soon. AFP

> Sai has shown a lot of promise. We know he's a very good player. Hopefully, we can give him a longish run from now on, at a particular number.
>
> **AJIT AGARKAR**
> Chief of senior selectors

Nair makes expected return

Shikhar the new face in Karnataka squad for their Ranji opener against Saurashtra

BENGALURU, DHNS

Karun Nair, who last featured for Karnataka in 2022, made an expected return to the squad for their Ranji Trophy opener against Saurashtra to be held in Rajkot from October 15 to 18.

Nair was included in the 15-member squad, to be led by Mayank Agarawal, announced on Monday.

While he was away, the 33-year-old earned an India call-up eight years later on the back of two successful seasons for Vidarbha. He also played a big role in Vidarbha's Ranji Trophy triumph last season, scoring 863 runs at an average of 53.93.

Agarwal will hope to bring the title home, with the State having gone without the coveted trophy for 10 years now. While the eight-time champions have not met their towering standards in the recent past, the conveyor belt of talent has continued to produce promising names.

Karun Nair (left) is back in the Karnataka squad for the first time since 2022 while Shikhar Shetty is a new face in the State's Ranji Trophy set-up. DH FILE PHOTOS

R Smaran, who recently replaced Devdutt Padikkal in the South Zone squad in the Duleep Trophy final makes the list. Alongside the left-handed batter, young talents like KV Aneesh, Abhilash Shetty and wicketkeeper-batter KL Shrijith, who have made a name for themselves in the limited opportunities, have also been named.

Back from his stint with KSCA's Secretary XI, in-form all-rounder M Venkatesh has been picked and will share the responsibilities with under-23 graduate Shikhar Shetty, who comes in place of fellow left-arm spinner Hardik Raj.

Shreyas Gopal, meanwhile, will lead the spin attack along with Shikhar and off-spinner Mohsin Khan.

Experienced quicks Vyshak Vijayakumar, Vidwath Kaverappa and hard-hitting batter Abhinav Manohar, and 25-year-old Nikin Jose complete the squad.

Karnataka squad vs Saurashtra: Mayank Agarawal (c), Karun Nair, Smaran R, Shrijith KL (wk), Shreyas Gopal, Vyshak Vijayakumar, Vidwath Kaverappa, Abhilash Shetty, Venkatesh M, SJ Nikin Jose, Abhinav Manohar, Kruthik Krishna (wk), Aneesh KV, Mohsin Khan, Shikhar Shetty.

Support staff: Coach: Yeregoud K; **Bowling Coach:** Mansur Ali Khan; **Fielding Coach:** Shabarish P Mohan; **Manager:** A Ramesh Rao; **Strength & Conditioning Coach:** Irfan-ulla Khan; **Physiotherapist:** Abhishek Kulkarni; **Performance Analyst:** Giri Prasad; **Masseur:** Somasundar CM.

India off to flying start; Sri Lanka edge UAE

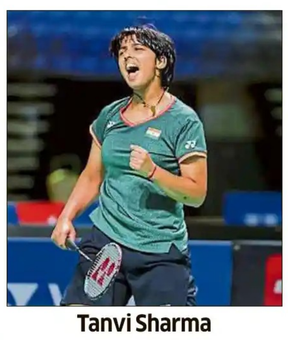
GUWAHATI, PTI: Hosts India kicked off their mixed team campaign in the Suhandinata Cup with a commanding win over neighbours Nepal, while Sri Lanka stunned the UAE in a nail-biting finish on the opening day of the BWF World Junior Championships here on Monday.

India, seeded second, experimented with their line-up but still sailed through 45-18, 45-17 in their Group H opener, while Sri Lanka took advantage of the changes made by UAE to win 30-45, 45-34, 45-44.

All other top countries, including 14-time champions China, former champions Indonesia and South Korea had little problem beating their respective opponents in straight sets to get their campaign rolling.

The mixed team championships are being played under a new best of three relay-scoring format.

Each tie will be contested for the best of three sets up to 45 points, with each set comprising five matches – one each in men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles and mixed doubles.



Tanvi Sharma

Results (after first two sessions): Group B: France bt Norway 2-0 (45-16, 45-24), USA bt Vietnam 2-0 (45-42, 45-30). **Group D**: Turkiye bt Uganda 2-0 (45-22, 45-22); China bt Ghana 2-0 (45-14, 45-10). **Group E**: Chinese Taipei bt Brazil 2-0 (45-24, 45-19); Denmark bt Netherlands 2-0 (45-40, 45-22). **Group F**: Indonesia bt Philippines 2-0 (45-27, 45-40); Hong Kong China bt Slovenia 2-0 (45-24, 45-25). **Group G**: Poland bt Bhutan 2-0 (45-13, 45-11); Korea bt Hungary 2-0 (45-22, 45-29). **Group H**: India bt Nepal 2-0 (45-18, 45-17); Sri Lanka bt Sri Lanka (30-45, 45-34, 45-44).

Easy win for South United FC

BENGALURU, DHNS: As many as four players scored at regular intervals for South United FC during their comfortable 4-1 win over Parikrma FC in the KSFA Super Division League Championship at the Bangalore Football Stadium here on Monday.

Shogouhou broke the deadlock in the 24th minute before B Abiram doubled SUFC's lead in the 51st minute. Parikrma FC reduced the deficit to one when Manglenthang Sing Sit found the back of the net in the 56th minute to help his team get back into the contest. However, their hopes of catching up were dashed when MakakMayum netted within the next few seconds (57th) to propel SUFC to 3-1.

While SUFC defended the two-goal lead for a majority part of the remainder of play, Tharun Kumar's strike in the dying moments (90th+3) rounded off the tally for the winners.

Brief scores: South United FC: 4 (Shogouhou 24th, B Abiram 51st, MakakMayum 57th, Tharun Kumar 90th+3) bt Parikrma FC: 1 (Manglenthang Sing Sit 56th); United Stars FC: 2 (Kaviarasan K 15th, Murali Srinivas 60th) bt HAL FC: 1 (MD Arshad 39th); Roots FC: 1 (Deepak Raj A 34th) bt FC Agniputhra: 0.

Tharun Kumar (right) celebrates with a team-mate after scoring South United FC's 4th goal during their win over Parikrma FC in Bengaluru on Monday. DH PHOTO/ BK JANARDHAN

Anvay Dravid

Anvay to lead Karnataka

BENGALURU, DHNS: Anvay Dravid has been named captain of the Karnataka squad for the Vinoo Mankad tournament that will be held in Dehradun from October 9-17.

Manikanth Shivanand has been named Anvay's deputy, while Rehan Mohammed will act as the back-up wicketkeeper to the skipper. The team will be under the guidance of head coach KB Pawan.

Karnataka squad: Anvay Dravid (Captain & WK), Nitish Arya, Aadesh D Urs, Manikanth Shivanand (VC), Praneeth Shetty, Vaasav Venkatesh, Akshath Prabhakar, Vaibhav C, Kuldeep Singh Purohit, Rathan BR, Vaibhav Sharma, Tejas KA, Atharv Malviya, Sunny Kanchi, Rehan Mohammed (wk).

Support staff: Coach: KB Pawan; **Bowling Coach:** SL Akshay; **Manager :** SA Satish; **Strength & Conditioning Coach:** Samee- Ur -Rahaman; **Physiotherapist :** Joby Mathew; **Performance Analyst:** Rajeev P

Zverev dumped out of Shanghai by Rinderknech

SHANGHAI, AFP

World No. 3 Alexander Zverev was knocked out of the Shanghai Masters by France's Arthur Rinderknech 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 on Monday, leaving Novak Djokovic as the tournament's top-ranked player.

In stifling conditions, the 54th-ranked Frenchman came back from a set down to stun an increasingly rattled Zverev into submission.

The German had injured his big toe towards the end of his last match but on Monday seemed to show no sign of discomfort as he broke Rinderknech in the third game with a forehand.

He nearly went ahead early in the second set, but Rinderknech recovered his cool, piling on the pressure in the fourth game to eventually break.

"I'm not very sure (how I managed to turn the game around)," he said.

"I fought like hell, tried everything. (Zverev) is such a good player.

"Starting in the second set... I was able to be offensive at the right moment, in a smarter way," he said.

On Sunday, the competition lost both defending champion Jannik Sinner, who was forced to retire with extreme leg cramps, and 4th-ranked Taylor Fritz.

World No. 1 Carlos Alcaraz withdrew at the last minute to rest.

Alex de Minaur is the next highest seed after Djokovic through to the fourth round, comfortably getting past Poland's Kamil Majchrzak 6-1, 7-5.

"I came into this week knowing how tough the conditions were going to be," the world number seven said.

The Aussie will next meet Portugal's Nuno Borges, who beat home favourite Shang Juncheng 7-6 (7/5), 4-6, 6-3.

France's Arthur Rinderknech celebrates after beating Germany's Alexander Zverev at the Shanghai Masters in Shanghai on Monday. AFP

Bengaluru Open returns after a 6-year-gap

BENGALURU, DHNS: Most of the leading male professional golfers in the country will slug it out for top honours this week in the city as the Bengaluru Open gets underway at the Karnataka Golf Association from Tuesday.

Sitting in second position on PGTI's Order of Merit (OOM) list, 26-year-old Arjun Prasad of Delhi will lead the pack that also has Sri Lanka's N Thangaraja, Delhi's Shaurya Bhattacharya, Pune's Udayan Mane and Chandigarh's Angad Cheema - players currently occupying 3-6th positions on the OOM.

Defending champion Abhinav Lohan of Haryana will be in fray at the event which is returning for its fourth edition after a gap of six years.

The local challenge will be spearheaded by Bengaluru-based professionals Rahil Gangjee, Khalin Joshi, Chikkarangappa S, Akshay Neranjen, Manoj S, Mari Muthu R and Varun Muthappa among others. The two local amateurs in the field of 126 golfers are Tanish R Gowda and Siddharth Paruthi.

Jain Heritage to meet Holy Saint in title clash

BENGALURU, DHNS: Vansh Pratap Singh (5/12) and Satvik Dummi (4/10) did the damage in the first innings while Aaryansinh Chavda (4/26) and Niyanta Kulkarni (3/19) emulated the effort in the second innings as Jain Heritage School defeated School of India by 10 wickets in the semifinal of the KSCA Under-16 School (I Division) tournament for the KM Ramprasad Shield at the RWF ground here.

LOCAL CRICKET

Jain Heritage skittled School of India for 97 and 125 in the two innings while managing 198 all out in between in their first innings. Needing 25 for an outright win in their second essay, Jain knocked off the target in 4.2 overs without any damage.

In the final, they will meet Holy Saint English School who made it to the title round on a better run-rate in league stage following a non-completion of first innings in their semifinal against Max Muller High School.

Brief scores (semifinals, at Green Sports Village): Max Muller High School: 306 all out in 70.4 overs (Srijesh Parthiban 26, Nitish Arya 160, Dhathvik 25, Arnav Ravindra Dere 49; P Jayanth Abhiram 2-69, Krish Rao 5-50) vs Holy Saint English School: 56/2 in 26 overs (Krishna Sreekar JS 29 n.o.) Match drawn without 1st innings completed.

At RWF: School of India: 97 all out in 33.3 overs (Vansh Pratap Singh 5-12, Satvik Dummi 4-10) and 125 all out in 39.2 overs (Niranjan Ashok 42; Aaryansinh Chavda 4-26, Niyanta Santosh Kulkarni 3-19) lt to Jain Heritage School: 198 all out in 55.1 overs (Arnav Anil 69, Aaryansinh Chavda 44; Aaryan Nagesh 3-73, Aryaman Goel 2-25, Aniketh Kundapur 3-52) and 25/0 in 4.2 overs).

Bopanna, Darderi, Moutet for TPL-7

NEW DELHI, PTI: Veteran Indian tennis player Rohan Bopanna and at least three top-50 singles players, including World no. 29 Luciano Darderi, will compete in the seventh edition of the Tennis Premier League (TPL), starting December 9 in Ahmedabad.

World No. 38 Corentin Moutet from France and compatriot World No. 39 Alexandre Muller will join the league, the auction will be held in Mumbai on October 9.

Two-time Grand Slam champion Bopanna, who made his TPL debut last year, will represent SG Pipers Bengaluru.

Italy's Darderi will represent Rajasthan Rangers while mercurial Moutet will compete for Gurgaon Grand Slammers.

Muller and Arthur Rinderknech (World No. 54) strengthen the rosters of Gujarat Panthers and Hyderabad Strikers respectively.

Will new AIFF constitution force mass resignations?

NEW DELHI, PTI: A majority of the AIFF's Executive Committee members will have to resign from their positions or lose their top posts in the state units if the national federation adopts its draft Constitution during the Special General Meeting (SGM) on Sunday.

The Supreme Court on September 19 approved the draft constitution of the AIFF prepared by former apex court judge L Nageswara Rao with certain modifications, and directed the football body to adopt it within four weeks in a general body meeting.

After the SC verdict, the All India Football Federation has called an SGM here on October 12 to adopt the draft Constitution.

But a particular clause of the draft constitution has caused headache to the AIFF top brass as majority of the members of the Executive Committee also hold top posts in the state units.

Clause (c) of Article 25.3 of the draft constitution sates that: "In the event a person is elected as an Office-Bearer in the Executive Committee of the AIFF and holds a position of an Office-Bearer in a Member Association, he/she shall automatically be deemed to have vacated his/her position in the Member Association."

Once this clause comes into effect after the draft constitution is adopted, the AIFF's EC members cannot continue as office bearers of their respective state units.

They can, however, continue to hold their respective posts in the state units if they resign from the membership of the AIFF's executive committee before the SGM.

ATHLETICS INTERVIEW

SEVILLE: KING BOLT'S WORTHY HEIR

World 100M Champion opens up on his run and Jamaica after the showman's retirement following the 2017 World Athletics Championships in London.

> Track and field in Jamaica is how cricket is in India. There's is talent in abundance for track & field. After Bolt, the new generation took time to get on their feet but there's no need to press the panic button
> **OBLIQUE SEVILLE**

ADITYA K HALDER
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

Sprinters are born, not made. The phrase fits perfectly for Oblique Seville, the reigning 100m World Champion whose journey began long before he knew what a stopwatch was. As a kid in kindergarten, Seville would outrun older boys with a kind of effortless rhythm that hinted something special was brewing in the Jamaican soil again.

When he lined up for the 100m final at the World Championships in Tokyo last August, Seville didn't look like a man trying to win. He looked like a man who already had. Facing the heavyweights, his compatriot and Kishane Thompson and the then-reigning World Champion Noah Lyles, Seville's confidence was almost casual. In his head, the race was already his to lose.

That self-belief came despite finishing third in the preliminary heats. But 9.77 seconds later, Seville stunned the world as he blazed past Lyles and Thompson in the final stretch to take gold, clocking a personal best and sealing one of the most memorable Jamaican wins in years. The moment ended with a roar and a shirt-tearing celebration and was a signal to the world that the next generation had truly arrived.

The result fulfilled a prophecy of sorts as Seville's idol, Usain Bolt, had predicted a Jamaican one-two before the event. Coincidentally, the legend was right there in the stands, quietly watching the rise of his successor.

"I had no idea that Bolt was in the stands watching the race," Seville tells *DH* over a video call from Kingston. "I was lost in celebrations after the race and then had other formalities to do right after. I learnt about it later, made me feel even more proud and honoured that we could treat him with such a result."

Was there pressure, though, knowing Bolt had publicly declared a Jamaican sweep? Seville laughs it off.

"Nah, running is no pressure for me. It was an honour that he thought we can be the top two but for me I was there to win the race, I came into the race as not the favourite too according to many but none of it was getting to me," says Seville, speaking from his home while enjoying a well-earned off-season.

The one-two finish was more than just a race result; it was a revival. It marked the first time Jamaican men had finished top two in the 100m at a World Championship and the country's first gold in the event in a decade. It also snapped an eight-year drought of podium finishes for Jamaica's male sprinters.

That gap defined the post-Bolt era. After the legend's retirement, the Americans took charge, sweeping podiums and titles, including a clean sweep in Oregon in 2023. For perspective, Jamaica won 25 golds across five Worlds during the Bolt years, 11 of them courtesy of the man himself. Since 2019, the tally dropped to just nine, with Seville's Tokyo gold standing tall as the only one in men's sprints.

Women's sprint took the centre stage with now-retired Shelly-Ann Fraser Pryce and Shericka Jackson winning medals galore, including a one-two finish at 2022 Oregon. For men, however, that dip was expected given Bolt's unparalleled dominance. But does that mean Jamaica's golden era is over? Seville doesn't think so.

"Track and field in Jamaica is like how cricket is in India," he says. "There is talent in abundance in Jamaica for track and field as we keep on producing talent. After Bolt, the new generation took time to get on their feet but there's no need to push the panic button just because we won one gold in Tokyo."

On Indian sprinters

Seville admits his cricket knowledge is "very limited," but he laughs that his late father Gerald was a huge fan of the game. Still, the Jamaican star has a fair idea about India's athletics scene.

During his training days under legendary coach Glen Mills — the same mentor who moulded Bolt — Seville got the chance to train alongside a few Indian sprinters who had flown to Kingston for specialised sessions.

While Seville was among the rare few to dip under 10 seconds before turning 21, India is still chasing that milestone. The current national record, 10.18 seconds, belongs to Animesh Kujur, set earlier this year. Yet, Seville has nothing but admiration for the Indian athletes he's seen.

Indian men's polo team suffers another defeat

ADITYA K HALDER
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

The Indian men's water polo team's struggles continued as they slumped to their third consecutive defeat in the group stages of the Asian Aquatics Championships, going down 21-6 to World No. 31 Kazakhstan here on Monday.

The result leaves the unranked hosts on the brink of elimination, with no points from three matches and a goal difference of -34. India now need a miracle to qualify for the quarterfinals, which would have guaranteed a berth in the Asian Games. Thailand, who sit fourth in the five-team Group B, have three points and a far better goal difference of -12. India will now face powerhouse Japan in their final group game on Tuesday.

Kazakhstan, on the other hand, were dominant right from the start, taking charge early in the match. Igor Nedokontsev and Adil Baltabekuly led the way with four goals each, while India's Bhagesh Kuthe scored a hat-trick in a losing cause.

The Kazakhs opened the floodgates in the first quarter, as Murat Shakenov, Nedokontsev, and Baltabekuly scored twice each to take a commanding 6-0 lead. Vaibhav Suhas pulled one back for India late in the quarter, and Uday Uttekar added another early in the second to give the home side some hope.

But Kazakhstan's superior fitness and finishing soon took over. Nedokontsev scored twice more, including a penalty, before Baltabekuly completed his hat-trick to extend the lead to 11-2 by half-time.

India showed brief resistance in the third quarter as Bhagesh netted twice and goalkeeper Tapas Mondal made a few good saves. However, Kazakhstan continued their onslaught with goals from Baltabekuly, Ruslan Akimetov, and Almat Madimar to make it 15-4.

Bhagesh completed his hat-trick in the final quarter, with Praveen G adding another for India. The Kazakhs finished strongly, with Tsoy and Maxim Lamayev among the scorers, as the match ended 21-6.

The Indian women's team will be playing their second group match on Tuesday against Uzbekistan. The women's team will qualify for quarterfinals irrespective of their position in the four-team group.

Results: Men: Hong Kong, China: 2 lt to P.R. China: 21; Uzbekistan: 7 lt to Iran: 28; India: 6 lt to Kazakhstan: 20; Thailand: 11 lt to Singapore: 19.

Women: Singapore: 13 lt to Japan: 26; Hong Kong, China: 10 lt to Kazakhstan: 21.

India's goalkeeper Tapas Mondal (centre) and defender Ankit Pasad (right) attempt in vain to stop a goal against Kazakhstan in Ahmedabad on Monday.

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